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FOOD PRICES IN HONGKONG.

SCHEDULE OF MAXIMUM RETAIL
PRICES.

1. Flour:—	
(a) First Grade, per bag of 50 lbs.	4.50
(b) Second Grade, per bag of 50 lbs.	4.00
(c) Third Grade, per bag of 50 lbs.	3.50
2. Tinned Milk:—	
(a) Sweetened Condensed Milk, per 1 lb. tin	3.75
(b) Unsweetened Condensed Milk, per 1 lb. tin	2.50
(c) Sterilized Milk, per tin (16 oz.)	2.50
(d) Sterilized Milk, per 1 litre tin	3.50
(e) Eagle Brand, per 1 lb. tin	3.80
(f) Skimmed Milk, per 1 lb. tin	2.00
3. Sugar:—	
Cane (in 6 lb. tins), per tin	1.20
Refined Crystallized, per lb.	1.14
Granulated, per lb.	1.14
Soft, No. 1 quality, per lb.	1.13
Soft, No. 2 quality, per lb.	1.12
4. Frozen Meat:—	
The Dairy Farm prices of frozen food and other stores as printed in the Dairy Farm price list and amended in red ink dated the 21st day of February, 1915, signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Food Committee are the maximum retail prices of the articles enumerated in the said list. [Approved copies can be seen either at the Treasury or on the premises of the Dairy Farm Co., Ltd., in Wyndham Street.]	

5. Market Produce:—

BUTCHER MEAT.

Beef Sirloin—Mei Lung Pa	lb.	21
Beef Prime Cut	"	21
Beef Corned—Ham Ngau Yuk	"	21
Beef Roast—Shiu Ngau Yuk	"	21
Beef Breast—Ngau Nam Yuk	"	17
Beef Soup—Tong Yuk	"	16
Beef Steak—Ngau Yuk Pa	"	21
Beef Steak Sirloin—Ngau Lau	"	24
Beef Sausages—Ngau Cheung	"	28
Bullock's Brains—Ngau No	"	10
Bullock's Tongue, fresh—Ngau Li	"	45
Bullock's Tongue, corned—Ham Ngau Li	"	60
Bullock's Head—Ngau Tau	"	14
Bullock's Heart—Ngau Sam	"	14
Bullock's Lump, salt—Ngau Kin	"	21
Bullock's Feet—Ngau Keuk	"	11
Bullock's Kidneys—Ngau Yiu	"	13
Bullock's Tail—Ngau Mei	"	13
Bullock's Liver—Ngau Kon	"	13
Bullock's Tripe (undressed)—Ngau Tai	"	06
Calves' Head and Feet—Ngau tau-tau-keuk	"	11
Mutton Chop—Yeung Poi Kwat	"	25
Mutton Leg—Yeung Poi	"	25
Mutton Shoulder—Yeung Shau	"	24
Mutton Saddle—Yeung On	"	27
Pig's Chitlings—Chu Chong	"	27
Pig's Brains—Chu No	"	24
Pig's Feet—Chu Keuk	"	13
Pig's Fry—Chu Chap	"	15
Pig's Head—Chu Tau	"	16
Pig's Heart—Chu Sam	"	11
Pig's Kidneys—Chu Yiu	"	13
Pig's Liver—Chu Kon	"	13
Pork Chop—Chu Pai Kwat	"	26
Pork Leg—Chu Pei	"	30
Pork Loin—Chu Hau Tun	"	30
Pork Fat or Lard—Chu Yai	"	20
Sheep's Head and Feet—Yeung Tau Keuk	"	09
Sheep's Heart—Yeung Sam	"	12
Sheep's Kidneys—Yeung Yiu	"	12
Sheep's Liver—Yeung Kon	"	12
Sucking Pigs, to order—Chu Suet, Beef—Shang Ngau Yau	"	20
Mutton—Shang Yeung Yau	"	20
Veal—Ngau Tsai Yuk	"	19
Veal Sausages—Ngau Tsai Cheung	"	20
Lard—Chu Yau	"	20

Barbel—Ka Yu	"	16
Bream—Pin Yu	"	13
Canton Fresh Water Fish—Hoi Sin Yu	"	15
Carp—Li Yu	"	20
Catfish—Chik Yu	"	12
Codfish—Mun Yu	"	14
Crabs—Hoi	"	26
Cuttle Fish—Muk Yu	"	16
Dab—Sha Mang Yu	"	12
Dace—Wong Mei Lap	"	13
Dog Fish—Tit To Sha	"	10
Eels, Conger—Hoi Man	"	13
Eels, Fresh water—Tam Shui Yu	"	18
Eels, Yellow—Wong Sin	"	32
Frogs—Tin Kai	"	40
Garoupa—Shek Pau	"	16
Gudgeon—Fak Kap Yu	"	20
Hairtail—Cheung Kwan Kap	"	20
Labrus—Wong Fa Yu	"	20
Loach—Wu Yu	"	23
Lobsters—Lung He	"	28
Mackerel—Chi Yu	"	20
Monk Fish—Mong Yu	"	30
Mullet—Tsai Yu	"	16
Oysters—Shang Ho	"	22
Parrot Fish—Kai Kung Yu	"	18
Pike—Fa Pau Fong	"	16
Plaice—Pan Yu	"	15
Pomfret, black—Hak Chong	"	26
Pomfret, white—Pak Chong	"	26
Prawns—Ming Ha	"	38
Ray—Pai Pa Sha	"	30
Rock Fish—Shek Kau Kung	"	15
Rosch—Chun Yu	"	12
Salmon—Ma Yau	"	30
Shark—Sha Yu	"	7

Skate—Po Yu	"	38
Shrimps—Ha	"	25
Snapper—Lap Yu	"	28
Soles—Tat Sha Yu	"	28
Tench—Wan Yu	"	18
Turbot—Tao Hau Yu	"	18
Turtles, small, fresh water—Keuk Yu	"	60

POULTRY.

Chicken—Kai Tai	"	34
Capon, large, small—Sin Kai	"	33
Duck—Ap	"	29
Doves—Pan Kau	"	18
Eggs, Hen—Kai Tan (cooking)	"	20
Eggs, Hen—Kai Tan (fresh)	"	36
Fowls, Canton—Kai	"	38
Fowls, Hainan—Hoi Nam	"	30
Geese—Ngo	"	24
Pigeons, Canton—Pak Kap	"	28
Pigeons, Hoihow—Hoi Hau	"	25
Pak Kap	"	25
Turkeys, Cocks—Fo Kai Fung	"	60
Turkeys, Hens—Fo Kai Na	"	45
Snipe—Sha Tsui	"	—
Phasant—Shan Kai	"	—
Quail—Om Chun	"	—
Partridges—Che Ku	"	—

FRUITS.

Almonds—Hang Yan	"	38
Apples (California) Kam Shan Ping Ko	"	23
Bananas (bride's), Macao—Heung Chiu	"	3
Carambola—Yeung To	"	12
Cocoanuts—Ye Tse	"	12
Lemons, China—Ling Mang	"	8
Lemons, America—Kam Shan	"	6
Ling Mang	"	6
Lichees, dried (small stone)—Lai Chi Kon	"	25
Oranges (Canton) (sweet)—Shan-sheng Tim Chang	"	14
Oranges (Canton) (bitter)—Pears (Canton), Cooking—Sha Li	"	10
Peanuts—Fa Shang	"	10
Persimmons, large—Hung Tsz	"	2
Pumpkins—Siam—Tsim Lo Yau	"	13
Walnuts—Hop To	"	14
Grapes—Po Tai Tsz	"	30

VEGETABLES, ETC.

Artichokes—Ah Chi Cheuk	"	16
Beans, Sprout—Nga Tsai	"	8
Beans Long—Tau Kok	"	11
Beet Root—Hung Tsai Tau	"	4
Bitter Squash—Fa Kwa	"	9
Brinjals, Green—Ching Yun	"	6
Brinjals, Red—Hung Ka	"	7
Cabbage, Chinese (common)—Kai Tsai	"	10
Cabbage, Shanghai—Ye Tsai	"	—
Cane Shoots, bunch—Kau Shun	"	8
Cauliflower (Large)—Ye Tsai	"	—
Cauliflower (Medium)—Fa	"	—
Cauliflower (Small)—Kau	"	—
Carrots—Kam Shun	"	6
Celery, Chinese—Tong Kan	"	9
Chillies, dried—Kon Lat Chiu	"	25
Chillies, red—Hung Fa Chiu	"	12
Chillies, green—Ching Lat Chiu	"	9
Curry Stuff, English—Ka Li	"	10
Cucumbers—Ching Kwa	"	2
Garlic—Sun Sau	"	8
Ginger, young—Sun Tse	"	9
Keung	"	10
Horseradish, Shanghai—Lik Kan	"	15
Indian Corn—Shuk Mai	"	06
Lettuce—Yeung Shang Tsai	"	1
Water Chestnuts—Ma Tai	"	6
Water Chestnuts, Mandarin—Kwai Lam Ma Tai	"	8
Mushrooms, Fresh—Shang Tsai	"	32
Ku	"	—
Okrae	"	—
Onions, Bombay—Yeung Chung Tai	"	8
Onions, Green—Shang Chung	"	6
Onions, Shanghai—Shueung hoi Shung Tau	"	7
Parsley—Kun Tsai	"	8
Potato, Sweet—Fan Shu	"	3
Potato, Japanese—Yat Pan	"	3
Shi Tsai	"	3
Potato, American—Fa Ki Shi Tsai	"	8
Pumpkin—Tung Kwa	"	3
Radish—Hung Lo Pak Tsai	"	0
Rhubarb (fresh)—Tai Wong	"	8
Shallots—Ken Chung Tau	"	8
Spinach—Yin Tsai	"	8
Tomatoes—Fan Ke	"	0
Taro—Wai Tsai	"	0
Turmeric, Punti (Long)—Lo Pak	"	4
Vegetable Marrow—Tsai Kwa	"	4
Water Cress—Sai Yeung Tsai	"	11
Water Lily root—Lin Ngau	"	6
Yams—Tai Shi	"	6

6. In view of the prohibition of the export of certain food-stuffs from the United Kingdom, the prices of these articles can no longer be fixed. If, however, any consumer considers that he has been overcharged he may make representations to that effect to the Secretary of the Food Committee, Sanitary Board Offices, for investigation.

Given under my hand and the Public Seal of the Colony at Victoria, Hongkong, this 25th day of May, 1917. By Command,

A. G. M. FLETCHER, Colonial Secretary.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

REGENERATORS OF EUROPE.

Here is a little tit-bit which someone wrote from France. It seems that a German flying machine was captured, and in conversation with his guards he remarked: "What you all mean by saying we Germans have done nothing but slay and ravish I can't make out. We are the regenerators of Europe: you can't deny that we have made France religious, England patriotic, and Russia sober!" And added the correspondent, "We couldn't."

THE HOLY LAND.

WHAT WILL BE ITS FUTURE?

[BY DR. GASTER.]

[Dr. Gaster is the Chief Rabbi of the Sephardic Communities in England, and is a distinguished authority on Biblical lore and on the law and literature of the East generally. The founder of Zionism in England, Dr. Gaster has continued to take a leading part in its evolution, and has been thrice the vice-president of the Zionist Congress.]

We Zionists have often had it said to us that Palestine should be given to the Jews; that, however, is very far from my desire, for without the machinery of Government, and without holding a preponderance of population, such a gift would be but a burden, and would be productive of nothing but inter-racial strife and national disappointment. What I desire to see, and hope that some day I shall see, is Palestine under the political control of Great Britain, and of Great Britain alone. The form of suzerainty is immaterial. Whether the overlordship be such as that which prevails in Egypt, or Cyprus, or in any other of this country's protected States, does not concern me; it is the substance of progress I seek, not the shadow of a name. It must be borne in mind that no condemnation of Powers, no deal condescension, is a possible alternative. For Palestine to be prosperous the firm and just control of one Power, and one only, is essential.

THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTION.

Existing nationalities would have to be acknowledged, their interests safeguarded, and the Turkish system of groups continued. Thus there would be in Palestine three nationalities: a Mohammedan nation, a Christian nation, and a Jewish nation, the sphere of each being determined by the supreme Power. To each nation would be given the power of independent internal administration, and the control of all matters concerning education and charity, with, of course, the power of taxation. Each language, again, would be recognised as official and legal.

The Moslem element in Syria has been stationary since the Crusades, and the Turkish Government has not contributed to build up the ruins of the desolated land. But, at the same time, I should like to say a good word for the Turk; for the Jews have had nothing of which to complain. They have not been singled out for persecution, or subjected to any special laws, or forced to live in pale of settlement; and their feeling is not one of unkindness. They, with the rest of the peoples of the Ottoman Empire, have had only to deplore the inertness of the Government and the hindrance it has placed in the way of development; and all this has ruined the Turk more than it has the Jew. When the change of Government comes, it is to Great Britain alone that the Jews will look to turn the wasted home of their fathers into a land again flowing with milk and honey, and to give the inhabitants of the Holy Land that Pax Britannica which is the one essential if Palestine is to become the spiritual centre of Jewry and the home of the homeless Jew.

A JEWISH CHARTER.

Jews have no political schemes of conquest, though, once established in Palestine, they would constitute a stout barrier to any threat from the north to the British Power in Egypt. It would, in fact, be as much a question of self-defence as one of loyalty to those who had given the Jews the possibility of settlement in the Holy Land. We contemplate a charter, granted by the Sovereign Power to the Jews, a charter that will not impinge upon the acquired rights of the actual inhabitants, but will give the Jews a privileged position: the right of pre-emption and purchase of Crown lands and railways, and facilities for all manner of industrial development. Free ingress of immigrants, who will flock to the Holy Land, will be granted, and the right to regulate the influx vested in the Jews themselves.

The revolution in Russia has changed to a certain extent the aspect of the immigration question, and has surely changed it for the better. For the millions of Jews in Russia will no longer feel the pressure driving them to emigration, and the stream from there will cease to flow. The position of the Polish Jew, however, still presents a problem for which no solution has been found, and a great influx from that part of the world is not unlikely.

THE HOPE OF THE ZIONIST.

What the Jews want is not the power to rule, but the feeling that they are being governed by a just and fair Administration; equitable, tolerant, and sympathetic; which, moreover, understands the possibilities of their future. Palestine to the Jews is not like a Gentile colony. Jews will not go there to enrich themselves. They will go to find contentment and peace of mind, freedom from oppression, and that, unhappily, a spiritual State may rise there to become a centre of light to themselves and to all the peoples. A Jewish Palestine would prove a link between the cultures of East and West, the high road where all could meet, in peaceful competition, to serve the highest aims of mankind.

THE FIVE CONTINENTS, AT WAR.

The coming-in of the United States means that another continent—the fifth—is now painted with the red of war. The most unwarlike continent is naturally Australia. Next to that comes Africa, where Abyssinia and Spanish Morocco are the only exceptions of consequence. If we include China among the Allies (and her adherence may not be long delayed) only about one-sixteenth of the area of Asia remains untouched by the war. In fact, Europe, the fountain and centre of events, contains a larger proportion of neutral territory—about one-seventh—than any of the four continents mentioned.

PRISONERS IN GERMANY.

CRITICISM OF THE GOVERNMENT.

In the House of Commons last month, Lord H. Cavendish-Bentinck raised the question of efforts to secure the release of civilian and military prisoners in the hands of the Germans. At Rahlbein there were forty to sixty people sleeping in a horse-box, and ninety in a long, low loft. Many were losing their eyesight, and a great many were losing their health, and a large proportion were suffering from nervous breakdown, while some had actually gone out of their minds. But for the bungling of the Government these people never need have been at Rahlbein at all. Could it not be arranged that these prisoners should be sent to some neutral country? He could not help feeling that the objections of neutral countries could be smoothed away. Mr. Joynton-Hicks supported the plea put forward by Lord H. Cavendish-Bentinck. In this matter Lord Newton was not the right man in the right place. He had not the feeling with regard to Germans that they would wish to see in a man who had to deal with the question of our prisoners.

Lord H. Cecil said it was a mistake that a decision on this matter should rest with naval and military opinion. It was not enough when considerations of humanity arose to answer that military consideration would not allow it. When he thought of the terrible position of these prisoners he had no patience to listen to dry official answers, which did not seem to indicate that any real effort was being made to bring about their release. He hoped that after the war there would be a strict inquiry into this as well as into many other matters. Every official concerned should be required to justify himself against the charge of having been inhumanly indifferent in this matter, and if they were not able to do so, they should receive the punishment due to those who had shown themselves indifferent to the claims of humanity.

DIFFICULTY AND PAINFUL QUESTION.

Mr. J. F. Hope said this question was as difficult as it was painful. It was impossible to contemplate not only without concern but without horror the state of very many of our fellow-countrymen who had been in captivity in Germany for more than 2½ years. The main difficulty was the attitude of the German Government in refusing to have anything to say to a man-for-man exchange. The German Government would only consent to a block or wholesale exchange. There were now in Germany 3,500 British civilian prisoners. In England there were 25,000 German civilian prisoners interned, and there were 7,000 more German civilian prisoners in other parts of the Empire. Even on the assumption that one-third of these prisoners on both sides did not desire to be repatriated on a block exchange, there would be a balance in favour of Germany of over 20,000 men, equal to more than a whole British division—of whom comparatively few could do useful auxiliary national service behind the lines. He held out no hope, therefore, any general block exchange of civilian prisoners on both sides could be entertained. There had been a scheme of repatriation of invalided civilians, under which 650 had been repatriated. If that scheme could be carried further we stood to get 600 or 700 more. But here again the attitude of the German Government was discouraging. Lord Newton, however, was urging that every opportunity should be taken to see that the scheme was not discarded. The Government saw no objection to extending the neutral internment system to civilian prisoners, and if any success came of the new proposal as to military prisoners they would endeavour to extend the new arrangement to meet the most pressing cases among civilians. (Hear, hear.)

RECRUITS OF 18.

Certain training reserve battalions have been selected and specially organised for the training of recruits between the ages of 18 and 19 and 8 months who are fit for general service and allotted to infantry.

Great importance is attached to the welfare and education of these young men, and the headquarters of these battalions have been carefully selected with this end in view.

A special syllabus of training has been drawn up, and the recruits are carefully trained and educated until they reach the age when they are available for drafting overseas. Special attention will be paid to the catering and general comfort, and specially qualified officers have been selected for this purpose.

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

POLICE SCHOOL, 5.45 P.M.
Tuesday, May 29th—Class 13 (Inspector Gordon).
Wednesday, May 30th—Class 12 (Inspector Grant).
Thursday, May 31st—Class 15 (Chief Inspector Kerr).

Friday, June 1st—Class 14th (Inspector Gerrard).
PARADES, 5.45 P.M.

Tuesday, May 29th—Ambulance Platoon. Also Recruits of a. Companies under Co. Sgt. Majors.
Wednesday, May 30th—No. 2 Company under own Commander.

Thursday, May 31st—No. 3 Company under own Commander. No. 2 Section at Water Police Station.
Friday, June 1st—No. 1 Section and No. 2 Platoon at Central. Also Recruits of all Companies for passing out by A.S.P. (R).

NO. 2 PLATOON.
Staff Inspector Arculli will act as Platoon Commander during the sick leave granted to Inspector Safford.

AMBUANCE PLATOON.
The weekly Lectures are discontinued until further orders.

JOINED.
Mounted Police—Trooper 499 J. H. Mody.

F. O. JENKIN, D.S.P. (R.).

... Ever tried to
bring Smoke out
of Your Eyes ?

Impossible
... Isn't it? It's
just as impossible
also to obtain a more
pleasant...satisfying...
delicious Smoke than



Westminster

AIDE DE CAMP

CIGARETTES.

SOLD EVERYWHERE.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE BOXING BOUTS—
CHALLENGE TO "OBSERVER."[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG
DAILY PRESS."]

SIR,—In reply to the letter of "Observer" in your issue of last week, the points of the Smith-Simes fight were independently checked and agreed upon in favour of Smith by my co-referee and myself; also, Simes himself told me he was glad I was refereeing the second fight between him and Smith as my first decision was a just one.

I cannot agree with "Observer" that serious breaches of the Rules occurred in any of the contests. No fouls were claimed by either principals or seconds, and neither does the Rule distinctly say, as stated by "Observer" that holding an opponent merits disqualification. The Rule says that "The Referee may disqualify after a caution," and, in my opinion, no holding in any of these contests was sufficiently serious to merit more than a caution.

"Observer" says: "In the Ahearn-Royal bout Royal forced Ahearn through the ropes. After falling through the ropes Ahearn got to his feet and endeavoured to enter the ring. Royal was on the other side of the ropes menacing Ahearn's entry. The fact that Ahearn was on his feet quite justified Royal's action. Had Ahearn crawled through the ropes upon his hands and knees then Royal would have been bound to step back and let him enter. Immediately Ahearn fell through the ropes the count should have started and continued until Ahearn either got into the arena again or was counted out."

Now Rule 1 of the Queensberry Rules, under which this fight took place, reads: "To be a fair stand-up boxing match in a 24 foot ring."

"Observer" says that Ahearn, being on his feet outside the ropes, quite justified Royal preventing Ahearn's entry, but this is opposed to the Rule which provides that both men must be in the ring. Royal, therefore, under the Rule, could not touch Ahearn until Ahearn was in the ring, nor could Royal prevent Ahearn from entering the ring.

"Observer" is also incorrect in saying that Royal must step back. Under the Rules Royal may stay anywhere in the ring until Ahearn has entered the ring, and if Ahearn, after having so entered the ring, is on his hands and knees and is not out of distance then only must Royal step back.

There was no occasion to count, as Ahearn was not down, was outside the ropes only by accident, and was ready and willing to re-enter the ring. Royal's action in the heat of the fight was quite natural, and Royal at once let Ahearn enter the ring on being asked to do so.

The Referee has absolute power to interpret the Rules and to decide any question not covered by the Rules, and I think that a Referee who disqualified any boxer in these contests would be quite unfit for his position. An eminent Referee, on being asked for advice upon the subject, said: "Leave a good knowledge of the rules and use common-sense." Common-sense tells us when boxers are doing their honest best to put up clean, good fights, as did all these men.

"Observer" must know that Americans are used to fight with one hand free, and not with both hands free as in these bouts; he must know that they came with little training; that many of the boxers were recruited at short notice, and some with little experience; they put up these bouts, the best and fairest of boxing; and, on behalf of the boxers, I emphatically disagree with "Observer." All the boxers deserve great credit, as do Inspector Wilden and the officials, busy men who gave their scanty leisure and their monetary support to this show. "Observer" has given a letter. "Observer's" letter shows ignorance of the Rules and of the duties of a Referee, and, as his letter appears to be directed against me personally, I hereby challenge "Observer" to three two-minute rounds at the next bouts which take place. I have not time for further discussion, and just say to "Observer," whoever he may be, "Don't talk—fight." I am, etc.,

W. S. BAILEY.

HONGKONG'S WAR
CONTRIBUTION.[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG
DAILY PRESS."]

SIR,—I thank you for your reference in your leader of this morning to my scheme, which appeared in your issue of the 22nd instant, suggesting, in place of a gift of a relatively small amount, a loan of fifty times the amount to the Imperial Government for 5 years with the assistance of the revenue from the special house rates. Now that you have taken an interest in the scheme and same has been considered worthy of being dealt with in your leader, I hope other correspondence will follow to give the scheme every consideration from all points of view.

My suggestion is detailed in my letter of the 22nd instant and indexed to the point in your leader of this morning. You express fear that to obtain the sum mentioned in the scheme—fifty million dollars—will depreciate the value of local securities. This may or may not be the case, but there is no reason for any serious depreciation, as almost all local stocks now give returns of about 8 per cent. on the present market values and are, therefore, reasonably low. In this connection you must be grateful for the fact, also, that most of the local stocks have appreciated considerably on account of the War. Pre-war holders of equal quantities of Banks, Insurances, Shipping, Docks, Lands, Cottons, Sugars, Rubbers, etc., have nothing to complain of.

Apart from the above, what does it matter to an investor if market values of stocks do depreciate as long as the percentage of return is larger and banks continue to make reasonable advances?

If \$100,000 worth (market value) of stocks earning to-day \$7,000 a year depreciated for the duration of the War to (say) \$80,000 on account of my proposed 5 per cent. loan, but kept on giving still \$7,000, I don't think any sound investor need be alarmed.

The object of my suggestion, as mentioned in my letter of the 22nd instant, is to offer a tempting investment for our wealthy Chinese friends, and thereby create quite a new source of supply for the gigantic War expenses. There is a considerable amount of securities idle at present in title deeds, stocks and shares, fixed deposit receipts and sovereigns, which may be pledged to advantage with the assistance of the banks.

The amount mentioned in my original suggestion may appear too big for the Colony, but what I really meant to show by display of figures was the proportion of 50 to 1 in favour of Loans *versus* Gifts, and I fully appreciate your remarks that the project might prove practicable in a modified form. Of course, the financial safety of the Colony must not be overlooked.

If the scheme is regarded as practicable as far as local conditions are concerned, the Imperial Government will have the choice of \$50 in loan for 5 years or \$1 annually in gift for the duration of the war—Yours, etc.,

GIFT V. LOAN.

LIGHT ALLOYS FOR AIRCRAFT.

With the object of co-ordinating the work which is now being done in connection with the use of light alloys in the construction of aircraft and aircraft engines, the Advisory Committee for Aeronautics has appointed a Light Alloys Sub-Committee. The members are Mr. Henry Fowler, Superintendent of the Royal Aircraft Factory, chairman; Lieutenant-Commander C. F. Jenkin, R.N.V.R., and Professor T. C. Lea, representing the Air Board; and Captain H. P. Philpot, Mr. A. W. Johns, and Dr. W. Rosenham, representing respectively the Aeronautical Inspection Department, the Director of Naval Construction, Admiralty, and the National Physical Laboratory, together with the Chairman of the Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, *ex officio*.

The functions of this sub-committee will be to advise Government Departments on questions relating to light alloys, to institute research for the development and improvement of such alloys and the methods of working them, and to assist in the removal of difficulties which may arise in their production and use. It will be in close touch with the experimental work on light alloys which is being carried out at the National Physical Laboratory, the Royal Aircraft Factory, the University of Birmingham, and elsewhere, and hopes to be able to give advice and assistance to manufacturers undertaking the production of light alloys and to founders engaged in the manufacture of engine parts, cylinders, pistons, crank cases, etc. It trusts to have the co-operation of firms who have undertaken such work, and will be glad to receive suggestions, and give any possible help in answer to inquiries.

OUR LONDON LETTER.
THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING WORLD
IN ARMS.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

LONDON, April 28th.

The thing which so many people in this country and in France—including responsible publicists—thought would never happen has come to pass. America has entered the European struggle as a combatant. It is, of course, a stupendous historical event. Not at present nor for many a day to come will it be possible to perceive its true significance. We have simply to accept it as an accomplished fact; one of those great occurrences which will be noted and written about till the crack of doom. It is another concrete instance of the amazing way the war has uprooted ideas about national policies and particular tendencies. Ever since Waterloo, English statesmen held firmly to the policy that, being secure in our island, we should keep clear of entanglements and alliances on the Continent. It was no part of our business to engage in military adventures on the mainland of Europe. But the German menace swept aside such considerations, and we now find ourselves with an Army on the soil of France and Flanders as formidable as any raised by the powerful conscriptionist countries. Similarly, the United States held that a jealous preservation of the Monroe Doctrine set the limit to their concern about European aggression. The war has swept aside that policy, too. America has had to come in, despite the danger of internal trouble from the vast German population in the country, for the same reason that Britain went in at the outset—because the German menace is not merely aimed at the territories and the populations of neighbouring States, but is directed against the liberties of the world.

KAISERISM NEXT!

Following the downfall of despotism in Russia, the entry of the United States into the war marks the beginning of a new phase in the mighty struggle. The air is cleared of any remaining misconceptions as to the great purpose on which we are set, and the ideals that we hope to realise as the reward of all our sacrifices and our efforts. More than ever before the issue is plain. The Allied nations stand pledged to overthrow Germany's monstrous pretensions to world-power and domination, and to restore and buttress with new safeguards the fundamental principles of public law and human freedom. In the early stages of the war this important fact was not realised in neutral countries; but it has been demonstrated by the course and conduct of the contest as waged by the enemy. The struggle is revealed as against a system of government which, in Gladstonian phrase, is "a negation of God upon earth." Autocracy having been overthrown in Russia, Germany and her miserable satellites present the spectacle of countries whose peoples are fighting to bolster up Tyranny crowned and enthroned, and to maintain the fetters which enslave them. Until this nightmare is banished, and either the German people wake up and deal with Kaiserism as the Russians have dealt with Tsardom, or it is settled as a result of the war, our duty is plain. We must fight on, and can do no other.

ALL ENGLISH.

The immediate effect of the entry of the United States into the war is moral rather than material, although as regards the latter there are numerous ways short of actual fighting in which the Great Republic can actively assist. Finance is one—and a most important one, too. If the struggle lasts long enough, no doubt America will raise and equip a big army, even judged by the standard demanded of nations whose soldiers appear on the battlefields of Armageddon. But time is needed for this, as we found out to our cost. Meanwhile, it is a tremendous factor in the general aspect of the war that at last the whole of the English-speaking world is in arms against the common enemy. The ultimate consequences of this must be of the utmost value for the future of civilisation after we have disposed of Kaiserism and destroyed for ever the monstrous evil of militarism and autocratic power. It was a little unfortunate that Parliament had risen for Easter before the official announcement was received in London that America had cast the die against the Hun, because otherwise proper expression would have been given through the customary channels welcoming our new Ally. In the circumstances the Prime

(Continued at foot of next column.)

COMPANY MEETING.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.,
SHANGHAI.

The annual general meeting of the shareholders in Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co., Ltd. was held on May 21st at the offices of the company, Shanghai.

The working account showed a profit of \$99,483.89 as compared with \$63,713.03 last year, or an increase for the year under review of \$35,780.86.

The balance at credit of profit and loss account was \$146,697.14 which it was decided to deal with as follows:

To pay a dividend of 8 per cent. for the year, which absorbs \$20,000. To transfer to a general reserve account \$100,000; to transfer to stock reserve account \$20,000, and to carry forward \$6,697.14 to new account.

Mr. J. Ambrose was re-elected a director of the company and Messrs. G. H. and N. Thomson were re-elected auditors at a remuneration of Tls. 300 per annum.

FAR EASTERN MEN AND
THE WAR.

Mr. Edmund Backhouse, the well-known authority on China, is shortly going to France for special war service.

Mr. A. C. B. Nash, of Messrs. Reiss & Co., Shanghai, has been granted a commission as lieutenant in the Royal Garrison Artillery.

News has been received that Mr. Tom Wheatley Kilby, third son of the late Mr. Edward Flint Kilby, of Yokohama, has been killed in action.

Sub-Lieutenant Gabriel Garibaldi, of the 2nd Colonial Regiment of France, who was in business in China at the outbreak of the war, is reported to have been killed in action.

Mr. P. E. Cholerton, who was formerly in the employment of the Shanghai Municipal Council as an inspector in the Health Department, is reported by cable to have died in France.

2nd Lieutenant R. L. F. Forster, of the East Kent Regiment, son of Mr. R. G. E. Forster, British Consul-General in Kobe, was reported missing on May 3rd, (says the *Japan Chronicle*). Lieut. Forster, who only passed out of Sandhurst last year, went to France with his regiment in September or October last.

Lieut. A. W. Peake, formerly a member of the Shanghai Volunteer Artillery, has now been recommended as a gunnery instructor. While in hospital he says that he was surprised to find Lieut. Lawrence, also of the Shanghai Volunteer Artillery, a patient in the same ward, where he had just undergone a small operation for foot trouble.

Minister did the next best thing by sending through the American Press representatives in London a message to the American people. The Republic of the West, he said, "has leapt into the arena, and she stands now side by side with the European democracies, who, bruised and bleeding after three years of grim conflict, are still fighting the most savage foe that ever menaced the freedom of the world." King George also sent a message of "heartfelt congratulations" to the President of the United States on his country's decision "in the greatest crisis in the world's history."

WAR BREAD.

Recent events on a transcendent scale on the vast stage of the world war are apt to dwarf many other happenings at home which would otherwise claim fuller discussion than is possible this week. Next to the fighting on the various fronts the public in England is most concerned with the question of the food supply, which of course touches everybody, and is likely to assume more importance during the next few months. The system of rationing in hotels and restaurants introduced by Mr. Runciman proved a failure, as I predicted would be the case. Instead, we have a plan for limiting the amount of food consumed by each person, with meatless days, and potatoless days, and other restrictions. Hoarding in private houses is provided against under threat of domiciliary visits; but it is only right to say that there is good ground for thinking that selfish action of this kind is rare. The truth of the matter is that certain commodities are in short supply, and there is a special reason for exercising economy in the consumption of bread. The loaf of pure white bread is a thing of the past; we are all eating loaves made of 75 per cent. of wheat flour mixed with maize, ground rice, and other substitutes to the extent of 25 per cent. It is scarce, for the colour being a greyish white, while bakers are bound by law not to sell it until it is 24 hours old, as stale bread "goes farther." That new, apart from high prices for everything in daily use, the "war bread" is in a special sense the most obvious reminder day by day of the struggle.

INTIMATIONS

LANE,
CRAWFORD & Co.

GENTLEMEN'S ENGLISH MADE

WHITE CANVAS
BOOTS and SHOES

\$7.50

PER PAIR



\$7.50

PER PAIR

WE STOCK THESE IN ALL SIZES INCLUDING THE EXTRA
WIDE FITTINGS, AS ILLUSTRATED ALSO OTHER SHAPES
WITH AND WITHOUT TOECAPS.

ALL WEIGHTS IN
ENGLISH AND AMERICAN
BOOTS AND SHOES.
LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

18

DRINK
"BULL DOG" LAGER BEER.
SUPERIOR TO ANY GERMAN LAGER BEER EVER BREWED.
BRITISH THROUGHOUT.

Brewed in Great Britain.

Bottled by British Labour.

OBTAINABLE AT—

PRICES DUTY PAID.

Wing On Co., Ltd.

QUARTS—\$20.00 per case

Sincere Co., Ltd.

of 4 dozen.

Sun Co., Ltd.

or \$5.10 per Dozen.

Cheong Tai.

Nam Hing Loong.

Ty Sing.

PINTS—\$26.50 per case

Sang Tai.

of 8 dozen.

Kwan Tye.

or \$3.40 per dozen.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Obtainable in Canton from

SINCERE CO., LTD.

Stocked by

THE HONGKONG HOTEL.

Admitted to be the Best

Lager Beer brewed.

FRESH STOCKS JUST ARRIVED.

(457-2)

Powell Ltd
TELEPHONE 346

SPECIAL NOTICE.

WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED.

A FEW CHEAP LINES

— IN —

LADIES' WHITE SHOES

\$4.50 \$5.00 \$6.50 PER PAIR.

VERY SPECIAL PRICES.

(3)

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

NOTICE.

MR. WILLIAM MALCOLM WATSON having retired from our business, his interest and responsibility ceased as from 31st December, 1916.

MR. JOHN DUFLOU HUTCHISON and **MR. THOMAS ERNEST PEARCE** will continue to carry on the business in Hongkong, **JOHN D. HUTCHISON & Co.** Hongkong, 29th May, 1917. [705]

G. R.

GOVERNMENT BILLS, ETC.

TENDERS FOR SPECIE AND MEXICAN DOLLARS current in this Colony, for Telegraphic Transfer, on the Loris Commission of His Majesty's Treasury, London, up to and for the sum of 250,000, will be received by the **TREASURY CHEST OFFICER, ARMY PAY DEPARTMENT**, until 10 o'clock A.M. on the 29th May, 1917.

The tenders to state the total amount (in Pounds Sterling). No Telegraphic Transfer will be made for less than £100.

The tenders to be in duplicate, and in sealed covers, addressed to the **TREASURY CHEST OFFICER, ARMY PAY DEPARTMENT**, and endorsed "TENDERS FOR GOVERNMENT BILLS, ETC."

The right to accept or reject any or all of the tenders is reserved.

Copies of Forms of Tender can be had on application.

"Persons tendering for (Bills) are hereby notified that having regard to the provisions of the Act 23 George III, Cap. 45 and 41, George III, Cap. 62, the acceptance of any such tender is subject to the express condition that no Member of the British House of Commons shall be admitted to any share or part in or to any benefit to arise from the Contract thereby made for the allotment of such (Bills)."

"The provisions in question do not apply to Contracts entered into by an incorporated Company in its corporate capacity and made for the general benefit of the Company."

F. J. THURSBY-PELHAM, Lt.-Colonel, Treasury Chest Officer, A.P.D., His Majesty's Treasury Office, Hongkong, 29th May, 1917. [706]

ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY.

A PUBLIC MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, May 31st, at 5.15 P.M., in the CITY HALL,

for the purpose of forming a **ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY IN HONGKONG.** Result of St. George's Day Celebration will also be announced.

ALL ENGLISHMEN INVITED TO ATTEND.

Chairman, His Honour Mr. H. H. J. GOMPREZ. [702]

THE BRITISH DOMINIONS GENERAL INSURANCE CO., LTD.

THE Underigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to accept risks against FIRE at tariff rates.

J. M. DA ROCHA & Co., Agents, at No. 9, Lee House Street, Hongkong, 29th May, 1917. [696]

EAGLE INSURANCE CO.

HEAD OFFICE, LONDON.

Established 1807.

AS AGENTS for the above Company, we are prepared to issue Fire Insurance Policies covering approved risks on favourable terms.

BANKER & Co., Agents. [697]

NOTICE.

WE HAVE from the 1st day of May OPENED our OFFICES at **SHAMERS, CLYDE**, under the style of **HOGG & KARANJIA, LIMITED**, where we shall carry on business as Import and Export and General Merchants—Raw and Waste Silk and also Oriental Produce.

ARTHUR VIVIAN HOGG, NOSSERWAN ROMANJEE KARANJIA. [693]

NOTICE.

NATIONAL CASH REGISTER.

ARCHIE WONGWAI, expert mechanic from his factory, Dayton, Ohio, is now in charge of the Cash Register business in Southern China.

AMERICAN TRADING CO., General Agents.

HONGWAI & Co., Ltd., Representatives, 14A, Des Voeux Road Central, Hongkong. [696]

WANTED.

CHIEF OFFICER, Manila, \$250 Philippine Currency.

Apply—**GERMAN CIGAR STORE,** 18 Nathan Road, Kowloon. [681]

WANTED.

OFFICE at the Central Location.

Apply to—**FURUKAWA & Co.,** 20, Des Voeux Road Central. [703]

TO LET.

ROOMS in Let Post Office Building (top floor).

Apply—**LOWE, BINGHAM & MATTHEWS,** Chartered Bank Building. [689]

INTIMATIONS

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

NOTICE.

A GENERAL MEETING of the Members will be held **TO-DAY (TUESDAY),** the 29th May, 1917, at 4 o'clock P.M., in the Chamber Room, Chartered Bank Building, 2, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong, for the purpose of nominating a Representative of the Chamber on the Legislative Council during the absence on leave of the Honourable Mr. P. H. HOLYOAK.

Notice in writing of the names of Candidates and of their proposals and secondors to be lodged with the Secretary at least 48 hours before the time appointed for the holding of the General Meeting.

By Order,

A. R. LOWE,

Acting Secretary.
N.B.—In view of the Whitstable holidays, nominations will be received up to 10 A.M. on TUESDAY, 29th instant.
Hongkong, 29th May, 1917. [682]

HONGKONG CLUB.

NOTICE.

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the **HONGKONG CLUB** will be held in the Club House **TO-MORROW (WEDNESDAY),** the 30th May, 1917, at 6.15 P.M.

Business is set forth in the Notice posted in the Hall of the Club.

By Order,

E. DES VOEUX,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 29th May, 1917. [379]

RUSSIAN 5% INTERNAL LIBERTY LOAN.

Subscription to the **LIBERTY LOAN** is opened at **THE RUSSO-ASIATIC BANK, Hongkong,** from date to the 26th June, 1917.

The price of issue is 85 per cent.

The Loan is free of Income Tax and other taxation.

The Loan is issued for 55 years and will be redeemable at par by yearly drawings beginning in December, 1922.

The Loan may be reimbursed at par after the 29th March, 1927.

Coupons are payable half-yearly on the 19th March and the 29th September.

Interest on the loan runs from the 29th March, 1917—interest from that date to be added to the price of issue.

Special favourable rates will be quoted for Russian Exchange.

Applications will be wired to Petrograd free of telegraphic charges and Bonds will be forwarded free of postal expenses.

The Bank is ready to give every facility to subscribers in the shape of advances against the Bonds.

G. FISDALL,
Manager.

Hongkong, 29th May, 1917. [608]

HOUSES TO LET

TO LET.

NOS. 3 A & B, ROBINSON ROAD

Apply to—**DAVID SASSOON & Co., Ltd.** [623]

TO LET.

"A RDSHEAL," No. 119, THE PEAK, newly done up.

Apply—**CHATER & MODY,** 5, Queen's Road Central. [614]

TO LET.

NO. 2, STEWART TERRACE, PEAK, Furnished.

Apply to—**H. E. POLLOCK,** Prince's Buildings. [97]

TO LET.

1 NEW HOUSE in Conduit Road. Ready for occupation. Also 1 **GODOWN** in Duddell Street.

For rent and other particulars apply to—**H. M. H. NEMAZEE,** 1 Des Voeux Road. [402]

TO LET.

IMMEDIATE entry. Two very desirable **SHOPS** situated in Lee House Street, opposite the Grand Hotel, recently reconstructed.

For rent and other particulars apply to—**THE MANAGER,** HONGKONG I.C. Co., Ltd., 46, Connaught Road Central. [401]

TO LET.

FOUR-ROOMED HOUSES in Gordon Terrace and Salisbury Avenue, Kowloon.

A **FLAT** in Humphreys Buildings, Kowloon.

TO LET OR FOR SALE.

KOWLOON MARINE LOT 48 with wharf area 68,000 sq. ft., suitable for Coal Storage or erection of Godowns.

Apply to—**HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd.,** Alexandra Buildings. [638]

TO LET.

OFFICES at 2 Connaught Road Central.

OFFICES in King's and York Buildings.

HOUSES in Clifton Gardens, Conduit Road.

HOUSES in Broadwood and Mescon Terrace.

HOUSES on Shanshan, Canton.

Apply to—**THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY Co., Ltd.** [38]

INTIMATION

GIANT LAVENDER TALCUM.

The latest addition to our fine series of Lavender Toilet Articles is a powder of exceptional merit.



It has real anti-septic properties and is wonderfully soothing to the Skin.

1lb. Size for \$1.00.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

TELEPHONE 16.

[12]

DEATH.

PAGE.—At No. 33, Carter Road, Shanghai, on May 19th, Isabel, the beloved wife of EDNEY PAGE.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VOEUX ROAD, C. LONDON OFFICE: 181, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG 29TH MAY, 1917.

THE BRITISH MISSION TO AMERICA

The Germans will be able to derive little satisfaction from the results achieved by the British Mission to America. All those who do not wilfully blind themselves to the situation must see that the cord on is being drawn slowly but systematically tighter, and that, whether the war ends this Summer or three years hence, there can be no possibility of their escaping without making full reparation for the crimes which they have committed. In taking his farewell of the American people, Mr. Balfour said: "I came with high hopes, but they have been far surpassed by the reality." Already much has been accomplished, quite apart from the financial aid which is being given unstintingly. Mr. LLOYD GEORGE has publicly acknowledged the assistance of the United States in dealing with the submarine menace, and there seems little doubt that the appreciable diminution in the loss of merchant vessels during the past few weeks has been due, in no small measure, to the number of craft which America has placed at the disposal of the Allies. We have heard of the arrival in Europe of the first American medical unit, and a division of regulars has been ordered to follow it as quickly as possible. Railway experts are being sent to Russia to help in the re-organisation of that country's communications, and nine regiments of engineers are being rapidly recruited for service in France. These measures, however, are only such as might have been expected. They represent the utilisation of that which the American Consul-

General in Hongkong described the other day as the Allies' "reserves," and, as time passes, they will be increased and extended until they become not so much, perhaps, the decisive factor in the war—as Mr. Balfour expressed it—as a means of shortening its duration. Complete naval and military co-operation was a foregone conclusion, but the Mission has accomplished far more than this, and, although many of the plans which have been discussed and approved need legislative sanction, there is no reason to fear that Congress will withhold the necessary authority. The effect of these plans, when they are put into operation, will be world-wide and permanent. America will help as far as possible in maintaining the British blockade, and whilst she will participate, through her Consuls, in rationing Holland and Scandinavia, steps are to be taken to reduce still further those leakages of supplies from neutral countries to "enemy territory" which hitherto have very sensibly lightened the pressure which our naval supremacy has been able to impose upon Germany. Those firms which deal regularly with Germany will no longer be provided with American products, and the difficulties which the Central Powers are now encountering in obtaining foodstuffs will be correspondingly increased. On the other hand, the Allies will pool their own resources and assure uniform prices and the scientific distribution of supplies through the operation of a joint buying commission. In addition, it is suggested that the United States shall give the Allies preferential treatment in commerce, and, although the details of the scheme for carrying this proposal into effect have not yet been presented to Congress, the mere possibility of any such development will deepen that mistrust regarding Germany's future which has already found expression in some of her principal financial organs, and will strengthen the desire, now becoming articulate, to secure peace upon any terms which will leave her free to carry on trade under pre-war conditions. There was some conversation upon the feasibility of maintaining a permanent commission in London, comprising representatives of all the Allies—including, of course, America—charged with the duty of controlling and co-ordinating all war measures. Thus we approach gradually nearer to that condition when all the energies of the nations engaged in the great task of crushing Prussian militarism will be directed by one impulse, and when the immediate object is achieved we may hope that the lessons learned will have prepared the way for that League of Nations which President Wilson has visualised for maintaining the World's peace. The sympathy which has been born of personal co-operation between the British and American officials cannot, we are informed, be measured in words. Each nation has obtained a truer perspective of the situation. The Mission has tended to lengthen the British view from a necessarily near-sighted absorption in immediate needs to a wider consideration of world-construction afterwards, and has foreshortened the American view-point from absorption in the future to the pressing emergencies of the moment. The result has been a closer basis of relationship between Great Britain and America than has been possible since their separation a century and a half ago. No wonder it is believed that the outcome of the Mission will vitally affect the future of the World. The common task will be pressed to completion with that increased efficiency which will inevitably follow a full understanding between the peoples, and, when success is achieved, we may look forward confidently with Mr. Balfour "to the dawn of that happier day which is coming not merely to the kindred communities but to all mankind who love liberty and pursue righteousness."

Notice is given that Mr. W. M. Watson has retired from the firm of John D. Hutchison & Co. Mr. J. D. Hutchison and Mr. T. E. Pearce will continue to carry on the business in Hongkong.

Yesterday, being Whit Monday, Bishop Pozzoni administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to a great number of boys and girls in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception before a numerous congregation. Afterwards a Low Pontifical Mass was celebrated, at which a general Communion was partaken of by the congregation.

RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

The financial result of the St. George's Day Celebration exceeded expectations, for it amounted to no less than \$33,000 odd. When it is recalled that "Our Day" last year realised only \$8,000 more than this sum, and that "Heather Day" yielded only about half as much, those who organised the effort are fairly entitled "to pat themselves on the back," especially if it be true, as the Hon. Mr. Holyoak declared at the inaugural meeting, that Englishmen are greatly outnumbered by Scots in the Colony. Do not let it be supposed when I say this that it is not fully recognised that the success of the day was due to the generosity of all the sections of the community. Indeed, in recognition of that fact the money has been distributed amongst four War Charities not one of which is even nominally English.

Had it not been for the celebrations organised by the Hongkong Club and the Police Reserve, Empire Day in Hongkong would have passed unobserved. The gathering at the Club will be a red letter day not only in the history of that Institution but also in that of the Colony. Rarely, I think, have the representatives of four great nations spoken at one meeting in Hongkong; never, it is safe to say, have they done so in similar circumstances. The speeches provided plenty of food for thought, especially that of the Consul-General for the United States of America. But why was the toast of the British Empire, coupled with that of the women war-workers, which was so gallantly proposed by the Consul-General for Russia, not becomingly honoured? Was it due to modesty following upon Mr. Anderson's jocular allusion to the "self-assurance" of the Briton?

A correspondent writes:—"The excuses offered for low scoring by some of those who took part in the shooting competition at King's Park on Empire Day are not very convincing. The Indians won, say some of the unsuccessful shots, because the weather was so wretched that we could not settle down to the conditions. Of course I can understand that unfavourable atmospheric conditions would have a depressing influence upon the scoring, but that would be a disadvantage common to all. The idea of training marksmen, I presume, is that they may be of service in warfare, and it cannot be supposed that the men at the front choose their weather; they are probably expected to 'carry on' wet or fine. Aperture sights and all the other paraphernalia employed in rifle contests may be all very well in their way, but the man who can lie down and shoot straight 'from the rifle' without any of these adventitious aids and in all kinds of weather is surely more useful than one who has to adjust this and that, have a clear day without too much sun and wind, and fails badly at snapping and rapid. I merely offer these remarks after hearing some of the explanations why this or that team did not win."

Newcomers are perplexed with many queries soon after their arrival in the Colony. One of their number submits the following, which have been troubling his mind:—"Why do people always ride in rickshaws or chairs when they have but a few yards to go? Why is it considered 'the thing' by those who do not usually dress for dinner to dress for very little tin-pot show which comes along? Why should one magistrate pass sentence of six weeks hard labour for a petty theft while another discharges with a caution a defendant brought before him for a similar offence? If Hongkong is the 'hub of the universe' why doesn't the Home Government recognise the fact? Why should people who are qualified to have a voice in the direction of Imperial affairs when at Home be excluded from all participation in the management of local affairs out here? Why does the Government adopt such a luke-warm attitude towards Empire Day? If people object to the imposition of certain taxes why do they not make an organised protest? How is it that an unofficial Justice of the Peace cannot be found to serve on the Licensing Board? Hongkong, I am afraid, is a nest of queries; one could go on asking 'why?' till the crack of doom."

Housewives will welcome the evidence which the *Gazette* affords this week-end that the Food Prices Committee, about which they made so many anxious inquiries, (Continued at foot of next column.)

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.

BLAKE PIER.

Two Chinese were charged before Mr. Dyer Ball with a breach of the regulations of Blake Pier. It appears that the men were seen by a *lukong* sitting on the rails of the pier and when requested to move refused to do so. They were fined \$1 each.

THEFT OF SHOES.

A Chinese who arrived by the s.s. *Taishan* from Macao was found to have a pair of shoes in his possession which did not belong to him. He was brought before Mr. Dyer Ball, when it appeared that he had stolen them from a lady who was packing her belongings. He was sentenced to two months' hard labour and four hours' stocks.

DESTITUTE INDIANS.

At the Police Court yesterday, before Mr. Wood, two Indians were charged with being destitute. The two men, Inspector Sim stated, were found in the caretaker's quarters at the Mohammedan Cemetery. The first defendant stated that he had been in the Colony ten years and his last employment had been on the Peak Tramway. Since then he had been at the Sikh Temple and at the Mohammedan Cemetery. The second defendant said he had only been in the Colony for about two months, after working in Tientsin and Shanghai. He had spent all the money he had saved. Mr. Wood sent both of them to the house of detention.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL CELEBRATIONS.

The Roman Cathedral was gaily decorated on Sunday with palms and flowers, and the pillars were draped with red cloth, large bouquets hanging between each arch, in honour of the feast of the Holy Ghost and the closing of the month of May consecrated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. A High Pontifical Mass was celebrated by Bishop Pozzoni, assisted by the Sanctuary staff and all the clergy and seminarists. In the evening the Litany of the Blessed Virgin was sung by the choir, after which there was a grand procession round the Church compound accompanied by the Band of the *Societade Philharmonica*. A beautiful statue of the Immaculate Conception was borne by the *Confreres*, the Bishop, in his Pontifical robes, with a Deacon and sub-deacon, followed. The congregation was very large and the churchyard crowded with spectators. Previous to the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, the Very Rev. Dr. Gomes, Vice Rector of Macao College, delivered an eloquent sermon based on the text "*Beati sunt omnes generationes*." The *Veni Creator* was intoned by the Bishop and responded to by the choir. The celebration concluded with the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

A reception took place in the Mission Hall, at which refreshments were dispensed. The tasteful decorations of the Church were carried out by Mr. J. M. de Graec, and the arrangements for the procession were made by Mr. A. M. Baptista.

BIG FIRE IN TIENTSIN.

A serious fire is reported to have occurred in the compound of Mackenzie & Co., Ltd., at Tientsin, on May 21st. The loss is expected to be in the vicinity of four lacs of taels. It is reported that the outbreak occurred amongst the hemp and liquorice stored in the compound.

quiries, was not dead but sleeping. The revised list of prices does not differ very materially from that issued in the early part of 1915. A cent or two may be taken off here and a cent or two added there, except in regard to fish, which appears to be generally lower in price. The chief increase is in sugar. At first sight this may seem strange in view of the import restrictions in England, but, of course, any surplus that may be due to this is more than counterbalanced by the absence of supplies from Germany and Austria. It is explained that, in view of the prohibition of the export of certain foodstuffs from the United Kingdom, the prices of such articles cannot be fixed, but the Committee are prepared to investigate any complaints of profiteering which may be addressed to their Secretary at the Sanitary Board offices. As the Committee do not appear to have cut prices too fine there can be no excuse for overcharging.

RODOLPH RANDOM.

THE WAR.

AIR RAID DETAILS.

RUSSIA AND PEACE.

FIRST "CRUSH GERMAN MILITARISM."

THE AMERICAN MISSION.

ENEMY ATTACKS IN THE WEST.

Franco-Belgian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

ENEMY ATTACKS.

REPULSED BY THE FRENCH.

Paris, May 28th.

A communiqué says:—In Champagne the enemy launched two attacks on Toton, and the last thereof, after first succeeding in penetrating our lines was completely repulsed. A third attack was broken down. There has been great artillery activity in Champagne.

BRITISH GAIN GROUND.

London, May 27th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We have gained further ground in the neighbourhood of Fontaine lez Croiselles. There were patrol encounters near Cojeul river and we prisoners a few.

In air fighting yesterday we brought down three German aeroplanes and drove down eight others. Four of ours are missing.

EARLIER CABLES.

SUCCESSFUL BRITISH RAID.

London, May 27th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a communiqué, says:—We successfully raided last night north-west of St. Quentin.

We repulsed a hostile attack east of Loos. Enemy artillery is again active south of the Scarpe.

FRENCH AIR SQUADRONS ACTIVE.

Paris, May 27th.

A communiqué says:—A German attempt north of Laffaux Mill failed under our fire.

Four German aeroplanes were brought down.

Our air squadrons dropped three tons of bombs on military establishments and factories, causing fires, one being most violent. We also heavily bombed aerodromes at Colmar, Sissonne, and an organisation in the region of Loos.

THE AMERICAN CONTINGENT.

Paris, May 26th.

Reuter's correspondent at the French Headquarters says that the first American fighting unit, consisting of a section of Motor Transport, has gone to the Front. The men are practically all undergraduates.

Several other units are training in France for combatant service as early as possible, and consist chiefly of college men, most of whom have hitherto been serving with the ambulance.

Naval Activities.

LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

BRAZILIAN STEAMER SUNK.

Madrid, May 28th.

Thirty survivors of a torpedoed Brazilian steamer have been landed.

SUBMARINISM.

GERMANY'S CHANGED TONE.

Amsterdam, May 28th.

The German press, commenting on Mr. Lloyd George's speech in the House of Commons about submarines, abandons the idea of the complete destruction of Britain's mercantile marine, and speaks vaguely of the effects on her economic future.

SUNKEN SPANISH STEAMER.

London, May 28th.

It transpires that the correct name of the sunken steamer is *Esquiverra*, a Spanish mailboat. The second officer's boat contained 23 persons.

HEAVY CASUALTIES.

LATER.

The place, and origin, of the sinking have been suppressed from the reports of the sinking of the *Esquiverra*.

One hundred and thirty-three passengers and crew are missing.

The vessel sank in five minutes. It was a most dirty winter night, and there were tremendous seas. The second officer's boat, with the passengers, was swept away. Almost simultaneously the vessel broke in half, and there was no other boat afloat. The survivors miserably escaped. They rowed for hours, baling out ceaselessly, and clothed in the most scanty attire.

The missing include the Spanish Consul of Colombo.

A SPANISH SHIP.

Madrid, May 27th.

The owners of the *Begonia* deny that the vessel was torpedoed. They state that the vessel is safe in harbour.

JAPAN'S NAVAL HELP.

Tokyo, May 28th.

An official statement has been issued covering the ground of Lord Robert Cecil's speech on the Japanese Navy's assistance, of the 24th inst. The statement adds that a squadron has recently been sent to the Mediterranean, commanded by Admiral Sato, while another is operating in the South Atlantic. "The Japanese navy," adds the statement, "is doing its best to assist the navies of the Allies."

EARLIER CABLES.

THE SUBMARINE MENACE.

SWEDISH STEAMERS SUNK.

Stockholm, May 27th.

Six Swedish steamers making a voyage to Finland were sunk. Three others were captured in the Baltic and taken to Swinemunde.

SPANISH COAST INFESTED.

London, May 27th.

Reuter's correspondent at Paris says that the Chamber still continues to debate the submarine question. Critics of the Government especially denounced the failure to cope with espionage in Spain, which had resulted in the Spanish coasts being infested with submarines.

SPANISH STEAMER TORPEDOED.

London, May 27th.

Reuter's correspondent at Madrid states that the Spanish vessel *Begonia* has been torpedoed.

BRAZIL'S ANNOYANCE.

London, May 27th.

Reuter's correspondent at Rio de Janeiro states that the torpedoing of the Brazilian vessel *Tijucas* has strengthened the movement in favour of Brazil joining the Allies.

TORNADO IN AMERICA.

LOSS OF LIFE.

Chicago, May 27th.

A tornado swept over a number of towns in Southern Illinois. It is estimated that there are seventy-five dead, whilst hundreds have been injured and thousands rendered homeless.

Italian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

ITALIAN CAPTURES.

Rome, May 27th.

An official message says:—We extended our positions on the south part of the plateau on the fourth day of the furious Carso battle. We maintained our positions and captured the other sector, after a daylong artillery, and the whole line by a brilliant assault. We reached a point beyond Montefalco and the Duino railway, north-westward of the San Giovanni. We carried Hill 145, south-westward of Medeasen and captured a field-battery of ten guns, ammunition and 812 prisoners, of whom 34 are officers. Northward of Jamiano there were a series of violent attacks and counterattacks. We reached and passed Castagnavizza, but concentrated enemy artillery compelled us to evacuate. We maintained our hold of the western boundary. We brilliantly carried heights at the head of Palliova valley in the Plava sector, and prisoners 438, captured a gun and two trench-mortars.

EARLIER CABLES.

THE ITALIAN OFFENSIVE.

BRITISH ASSISTANCE.

London, May 27th.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Rome, a semi-official message says that with the object of assisting the offensive in the Carso region, British monitors with naval forces and Italian aeroplanes made a prolonged and effective attack with heavy guns from the Gulf of Trieste on the rear of the enemy's lines, especially the great air stations, depots and other important military objects near Prosecco. The enemy's repeated air attacks only resulted in our aviators bringing down two of his aeroplanes. Italian warships rescued four aviators, despite the fire from the enemy's batteries.

All the naval aerial units participating in the attack returned to their base without the slightest damage.

No enemy flag was seen on the sea except those on the aeroplanes which were brought down.

AUSTRIAN ARTILLERY WITHDRAWING.

London, May 27th.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Rome, the Italians are now generally in contact with the western slopes of Hermada. They have taken important material and a large number of prisoners. They have silenced the Austrian artillery, which is hurriedly withdrawing in order to avoid capture. The battle continues to be most intense on the whole of the Carso and Osonzo fronts. The Italians are advancing slowly but irresistibly from Monte Kuk to the sea.

Aerial Activities.

EARLIER CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

THE AIR RAID ON ENGLAND.

FEARFUL SCENES IN A COAST TOWN.

London, May 27th.

Later accounts of the air raid show that the raiders appeared at the Coast town which is the principal sufferer, from inland. The first bomb crashed on a thoroughfare in the lower quarter, which was crowded with shoppers, including a potato queue of women and children. It caused more casualties than the numerous other bombs.

When the column of black smoke dispersed, the street for two hundred yards resembled a shambles of dead and dying human beings and disembowelled horses. The shops of a greengrocer, a butcher and a draper here were demolished. It is feared that there may still be victims in the debris of these premises and elsewhere.

The bomb made an enormous hole in the roadway, smashing to atoms a number of cabs and killing the horses, but the drivers, who were momentarily absent, escaped.

A girls' school and a hotel were demolished. The former was temporarily tenanted, and there were no victims. Eye-witnesses describe the perfect formation maintained by the squadrons during the quarter of an hour which the visitation lasted. There was no panic, people rushing about the streets to see the spectacle.

Complaints have been made that a number of German shop-keepers had still been allowed to remain in this particular town.

The Near East.

EARLIER CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

THE DARDANELLES.

IMPORTANT RUSSIAN DECLARATION.

Paris, May 27th.

At Petrograd, M. Milukoff made a speech in which he said that the essential point was not whether the Dardanelles should be Russian or neutral, but whether they should be Russian or German. The Allies recognised Russia's right to the Dardanelles, not merely to favour Russia, but to ensure that the Straits should not fall into the hands of the Germans.

General.

LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

AFFAIRS IN RUSSIA.

IRON DISCIPLINE IN THE ARMY.

Petrograd, May 27th.

General Kerenky, in a striking message to the forces, re-emphasising the need of an iron discipline, declared that if the soldiers and sailors do not defend their country their names will be cursed. They must rid the country and the world of the violators and usurpers.

An order of the day stipulates that the soldiers cannot be punished without a trial, but the commanders have a right to employ armed forces against insubordinates in war time.

THE ALLIES' RESOLUTION.

ENTHUSIASTIC LABOUR DEMONSTRATION.

London, May 27th.

A great and enthusiastic demonstration, organised by the British League of Workers, was held in Hyde Park, when addresses were delivered by M.P.s and leading Labourites.

By acclamation, a resolution was passed sending fraternal greetings to allied peoples, particularly to the United States and Russia. The resolution expressed the fixed determination of all patriotic Britons in the United Kingdom and the Dominions beyond the seas to continue the war to a victorious finish.

Appreciative messages were read from Mr. Lloyd George, and Mr. John Hodge. A procession was formed, which marched to the French Embassy, where all the allied Ambassadors and Ministers had assembled.

The resolution was presented, and the diplomat's replied amid stirring scenes of enthusiasm.

NO SEPARATE PEACE.

CRUSH GERMAN MILITARISM.

Petrograd, May 28th.

The Congress of Peasants' Delegates practically unanimously passed a resolution repudiating the idea of a separate peace.

General Dragomiroff, commanding the Northern front, addressing a congress of delegates at Riga, declared that a separate peace was impossible because it did not assure the liberty of the Russians, who ought to help the Allies to crush German militarism, thus definitely consolidating the revolution.

A congress of Officers' delegates passed a resolution declaring that the salvation of the Fatherland demands the exertion of all the country's efforts, and calling on all the officers to extend a brotherly hand to the soldiers and workers.

EARLIER CABLES.

BRITISH MISSION TO AMERICA.

RESULT ATTAINED.

London, May 27th.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Washington, an authoritative statement has been issued on the occasion of the departure of the British Mission to the United States after conferences which touched every phase of the life of America and the Allies, and which are expected vitally to affect the future of the world. The considerable sympathy born of personal contact of British and American officials cannot be measured in words. Uncertainty has been removed, and efficient co-operation made possible by an exact definition of the resources and needs of the United States and the Allies. The former now knows the Allies' need in detail, while the Allies now not only know the American resources but the degree of availability therefore. Much has been agreed upon which cannot become effective without legislation.

The great benefit of the Mission's visit, however, has been decisive advice of the men who have actually been in the fire of war and who have made desirable policies obvious by merely relating their experiences. The United States has undoubtedly been placed on a closer basis of relationship with Britain than since the separation a century and a quarter ago, while controversies during the long months of neutrality have been dissolved in a fuller understanding by American officials and statesmen of the difficulties of belligerency.

Mr. Balfour has seen realised his life-dream of a closer sympathy between the two great branches of English-speaking peoples. The British have shown tact and consideration of American feeling, and have been most scrupulous on all occasions so as not to appear to be interfering in American affairs. Their constant effort was to describe Britain's experiences for whatever value these might be. Regarding the immediate diplomatic result, if it has tended to lengthen the British view from a necessarily near-sighted absorption in the immediate needs of the war to a broader consideration of the world construction afterwards, it has foreshortened the American view point from the absorption in the future to the immediate pressing emergency. Briefly, both sides feel they have gained a truer perspective. President Wilson's League of the Nations plan was discussed formally, but not conclusively.

The German plan of a great middle European Empire was discussed and attention directed to the necessity of a complete restoration of Roumania, Serbia, and Montenegro, as a counter. New Russia's opposition to conquest and an indemnity was not considered antagonistic. All the changes proposed are on a basis of nationality or the return of lost provinces. The British members of the Mission expressed confidence that all would turn out well with Russia.

The restoration of Poland, the situation in Ireland and that in Mexico were discussed, and far-reaching understandings were arrived at in trade matters. Generally speaking, the United States will give the Allies preferential treatment of commerce, but details cannot be divulged, owing to Congress not having passed the necessary legislation. A joint Allied Buying Commission is expected as a result, assuring uniform prices to all the Allies to prevent extortion and to secure economical and scientific distribution of supplies. America will co-operate as far as possible in maintaining the British blockade.

America will participate, through her Consuls, in rationing Holland and Scandinavia. Except that a system of export licenses will be introduced in this connection, the British system as far as possible will be maintained and means taken to prevent American products from reaching firms dealing regularly with the enemy. A definite understanding was reached in the matter of the sale of American and Canadian wheat to the

Allies through the Allied Wheat Executive, but details are not published at present, because of the effect they would have on the market. The Munitions Control, Executive will similarly be centralised. The United States is considering the British invitation that permanent representatives of all the Allies should sit on Commissions in London, including those of Wheat, Munitions, Shipping and General Supplies. Besides the above, it is most important that military and naval co-operation should be arranged.

GERMAN NEWSPAPERS.

Amsterdam, May 27th.

The *Cologne Gazette* says that six hundred German daily newspapers have ceased publication since the outbreak of the war.

FAMINE FEARED IN CHINA.

Shanghai, May 27th.

A drought in Central and Northern China is affecting the rice crops, and a famine is feared.

PARLIAMENT ADJOURNS.

London, May 27th.

The House of Commons has adjourned till June 5th and the House of Lords till June 12th.

GERMAN AERIAL RAIDS.

Petrograd, May 27th.

There have been several raids of German aircraft recently on small towns on the Danube. There have been many casualties, especially at Ismail.

STRIKES IN FINLAND.

London, May 27th.

Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd states that there are many strikes in Finland, especially among agriculturalists.

THE AUSTRIAN PREMIERSHIP.

London, May 27th.

A telegram from Budapest says that the Archduke Joseph has refused to accept the position of Premier.

FORTUNES WON BY BUYING SHIPS.

MILLIONAIRES MADE IN CARDIFF IN A FEW MONTHS.

TRAMP NOMINALLY VALUED AT A FOUND BROUGHT £20,000.

Subscriptions from Cardiff to the new British War Loan amounted to more than £20,000,000, an average of £150 for every man, woman and child in the city. This remarkable contribution is an indication of the golden age which the war has brought to Cardiff. In no British city has such vast wealth been earned so easily and so quickly.

At the outbreak of the war, Cardiff had the largest trade in the country. Freight began to increase. Ships doubled, trebled, quadrupled in value. Young business men, enterprising and daring, bought whole fleets on a speculative basis, which would almost make a New York ketch-broker hesitate. They reaped the reward of their daring.

In one case a tramp steamer, so old that it was carried on a company's books at a nominal valuation of £1, was sold for £20,000, and resold the next day for even £100,000. In another case a steamer, bought in the midst of a voyage for £100,000, realized £20,000 for its owners by the time it reached the dock, and was then promptly resold for another profit of £40,000.

Among new millionaires of Cardiff are fourteen young men who before the war were shipping clerks, earning not more than £2 10s. per week. One of them had less than £20 in the bank when he began, collecting the money for his initial payment by borrowing small amounts from a large number of friends and acquaintances.

Two young bank clerks persuaded the manager of their bank to lend them £10,000 with which they purchased thirty-five day options which netted them £500,000 in a month.

It has not been the owners only who have profited. First-class dock labourers, especially trimmers, have earned as high as £20 a week. The miners, too, have earned big money, and the shopkeepers, especially the jewellers, and the department stores, have never known such prosperous times. The day when the poor man could make a huge speculative fortune in Cardiff now has passed, however. The Government restrictions on shipping have put a stop to the free-and-easy dealings of the first year of the war. Three-fourths of Cardiff's war-created wealth was piled up in the first year of the war. Nowadays, a large proportion of its ships are under charter to the Government at a moderate rate, and no sales of ships may be made without Government permission. Taxes also eat heavily into profits. Between the excess profits tax, the income tax and the super-tax, nearly 75 per cent. of the net income of every big shipping firm is taken over by the Government.

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Scratching Caused Eruptions.
Awful Burning Sensation.

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"I had an itching on my head and I had to scratch it which caused sore eruptions. The eruptions spread all over my head, temples, neck and down my back. I had an awful burning sensation and I could not sleep at night with it, and I also felt poorly in health. My hair came out a lot too."

"I saw a Cuticura Soap and Ointment advertisement and I sent for a free sample. I found the sample did wonders and I purchased more and I am now healed and I have had no return of the trouble since." (Signed) Mrs. Mary Gambrell, 24, Saunders St., Gillingham, Kent, Eng., July 29, 1915.

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With 22-p. Skin Book. (Soap to cleanse and Ointment to heal.) Address post-card for samples: E. Newberry & Sons, 27, Charterhouse Sq., London. Sold everywhere.



UNHAPPY THIN FOLKS.

One of the readers of a popular health journal wrote to the editor, asking why she was peevish, blue and discontented, and his answer will interest all thin people.

"My dear reader," he said, "when you write that you are thin and do not weigh what you should, you have given me the real cause of your unhappy feelings. If you only had a reserve of fat this would give a quieting and reassuring influence to the vital forces, and you would then be happy, contented and optimistic."

Then, too, you realize that the proper distribution of fat on the body and limbs makes all the difference between beauty and ugliness, and you envy your plump friends. As a liberal allowance of fat is one of nature's wise precautions to enable us to bear some of the trials of life, you should do all in your power to get fat. I know nothing so valuable to make people fat as a preparation of Sargol, prepared by The Sargol Co. of England.

From the standpoint of health, fat is essential, as it has great value as a reserve force, and saves the other tissues from destruction. So, by all means try to get fat."

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A TOWN FOR A TOWN.

[BY AN ENGLISHMAN.]

The Germans have always been dirty fighters, and never have they so grimly stained their hands with the mire of dishonour as in their recent retreat.

They have carried off young girls from the towns which they have been compelled to surrender, they have destroyed in a vile spirit of wantonness the houses and châteaux which they have rifled, and which they are driven by the greater prowess of the Allies to desert.

To argue with the Huns, who worship the demon of destruction, who take a sheer delight in levelling the masterpieces of Gothic architecture with the ground, is an idle, useless task. They do not understand the laws of civilised warfare, and they will never understand them. The Boche cannot distinguish between fighting and pillage. He craves into his sack whatever treasures of art he can lay his greedy hands upon. If he sees a monument of architecture, he tears it to pieces in a spasm of rage and jealousy. It is born in upon his clumsy mind that his own compatriots cannot produce the marvels of beauty which are found everywhere in France, and since he cannot carry them away with him he takes care that they shall not belong shall enjoy them no longer. His innumerable universities, with their thousands of State-fund professors, have done nothing to tame his savagery, and he will remain unto the end of time a barbarian and an image-breaker.

As it is impossible to bring a mad dog to his senses by any simple process of reasoning, the Allies must do their best to check the iconoclasm of the Huns by a definite and well-concerted policy of reprisals. We may accept it as an axiom that the Boches, who take a malicious joy in grinding works of art to powder, art not fit to possess works of art for themselves. Fortunately for our purpose there is no lack of artistic masterpieces in Germany. The Boches have collected pictures and sculptures with the utmost assiduity, not because they appreciate their worth but because they have a passion for the pigeon-hole. They like to affix labels and to write monographs. It does not matter to them whether the labels which they affix are relevant or not. Lucas' wax bust satisfies them completely, because the name of Leonardo da Vinci is pinned upon it. But the point is that they are collectors and that after the war their collections will be at the mercy of the Allies.

ABUNDANT AMEND.

For everything, therefore, that they have stolen or defaced they shall make an abundant amend. They shall suffer tenfold for the sufferings which they have inflicted. The pictures and sculptures which their patient, pedantic hands have gathered in the past shall be carried away into Belgium and France, the gracious lands which they have stripped of their treasures. Even if we leave their cities bare, we cannot wholly make good the damage which their soldiers have done in their paroxysms of drunken fury. But we can at least take from them the masterpieces which they have proved themselves unfit to possess, and tear from their lacks the last rings of "culture" which cover them.

So much must be done by way of reprisal for the works of art which the Germans have stolen or destroyed. There are still the broken, damaged cities to be remembered. As the Huns retire they leave behind them a hideous wilderness. They attack houses and churches with fire and axe. They pretend that they are removing objects of military value. They assert that it is their painful duty, to pulverise all buildings which might shelter the rapidly advancing Allies. That they are talking nonsense is apparent even to themselves, and their nonsense would not convince their own dupes and countrymen if those dupes were not already in love with barbarism. There is, then, but one method of checking their outrages, and that is the method of announcing at once the towns and villages in Germany which the French and Belgians will hold as hostages for their own towns and villages.

The plan is justified at every point of view. As M. Barres has pointed out in the *Echo de Paris*, its object is not vengeance but security. The Huns are a primitive folk and cannot understand the language or the conduct of gentlemen. If you expostulate with them they proclaim themselves humanitarians, and go on joyously with the congenial task of smashing up whatever stands before them. They look upon war as a kind of knock-about, faro, or tragedy. The sound of broken glass is as sweet to their ears as the shrieks of ill-treated women. But they are afraid when it is suggested that others should do to them what they do to others, and the threat of instant reprisals alone can exert any influence upon their hard, unimaginative brains.

HUN VIEW OF PITY.

And their system of destruction, deliberate as it is, does something else than express their frenetic hatred of beauty. They have pictured Europe after the war as a place of woe and desolation. It pleases them to think that, when peace comes, they will have a clear start of their rivals, who will be too busy repairing the damage done by the Boches to think of manufacturing articles of commerce and of sending their wares across the sea. It is an amiable dream which the future will rudely dispel. It is not the victims of Hunnish rage who will fall behind in the race. We must see to it that the old penalty of an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, is sternly enforced, and that if a French or Belgian town falls a German town shall fall presently, by a just and accurate compensation.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

SOLDIER BOXERS AT THE FRONT.

[BY AN OFFICER.]

I cannot imagine how you can attend such degrading spectacles.

How often have I had that said to me during my twenty-odd years of experience in boxing before the war, and when I muttered something about "manly sport" or "I am a bit old-fashioned," I little thought that I should live to judge a glove fight in Flanders with an aeroplane hovering above the ring, the "hump" of big guns sounding on the horizon, and the audience composed of English, French, and Belgian soldiers. I have judged boxing at the front under various conditions and in various places, in a grass field with tiny French children playing round my legs, in a famous town hall, in an improvised cinema theatre, and in the market-place. I have judged at a distance of twenty miles from the enemy and within five miles of him, and I have chatted to the famous John Hoyle and to Lieutenant Abbot, the champion amateur heavy-weight of France, at the ring-side as if we were all at the National Sporting Club, and I have yet to discover a finer sport for producing men who will "go over" the parapet well and rush a Hun trench.

The open air is the place for a glove fight. Come into the market-place with me and take a look at one, but as you push through the outskirts of the crowd mind that mule does not kick you, and do not get run over by that motor-lorry, or trodden upon by the brigadier's horse, for although you meet with some misadventure that puts in what will give you something to pull your round, you may just as well be careful.

The crowd is about 1,500 strong and nearly every one of them has been in danger of losing his life within the last twenty-four hours, and will be at it again before to-morrow night. They are front-line men and, as the phrase runs, "all the nobility and gentry of the neighbourhood are present." These are French soldiers ever there sitting in a motor-car and smoking capors, and that young officer in a staff cap used to write magnificent Latin prose. I myself used to address juries in the law courts, and I came out with my company from the first trench last night. Come on, or we shall never see anything.

SPENDID OPPONENTS.

Above the heads of the crowd, even of those who are seated upon horses, rocks the wooden staging upon which the men of the two nations are fighting. The sound of the fists, the thud, thud, thud, and the unfinishing manner in which their bodies receive them is a test of fitness. Nasty opponents these in a bayonet charge, but excellent company in billets, as their steady, smiling faces proclaim. It is Ireland versus Scotland, with France and Belgium cheering both, and although the Scotsman has fought so well that he is certain of an extra prize awarded by the kindness of the Irishman's commanding officer. No, it will not rain; those little clouds of white wool far away in the sky are only anti-aircraft shells bursting round a Boche aeroplane; he will not do much "spotting" to-day while the range and angle is as good as that.

And so it goes on, and after the prize-giving the victors will share their winnings with the vanquished and swear that "out awful uppercut in the second round nearly stolen my gold belt." You priceless people, you private soldiers, how my heart goes out to you! The shades of the old-time fighting men are watching you. I have trained boxers in a hut near Poperinghe whom I have been shelled with the Ypres salient. I have been "over the top" with boxers whom I have judged in England. I have borrowed the basins and towels from the kindly R.A.M.C. and tried to buy shoes. I have enough for 14-stone men in a French village, and I can take it from me that the best boxer in the battalion is one of the least likely men to give trouble; he is always brave, he is never a "bruiser," and he accepts the discipline of the referee or his company commander without a murmur. — ENDS.

In truth, M. Maeterlinck's plan of hostage-taking is everything to recommend it. It should be explained at once that if any violence be done to Brussels, Berlin shall be razed to the ground. I confess that it is a poor exchange, but if the Brandenburg Gate is blown up with dynamite, Berlin will lose its one respectable monument. I would stipulate only that whatever happens, the Alley of Victory should go unscathed, as an eternal proof of Hunnish vulgarity. If Ghent and Bruges are damaged by the Hun, then Cologne and Düsseldorf shall pay for them in ashes. Should Innsbruck be left in ruins, then Treves shall be offered up a victim to the Teuton's rage. So Lille, St. Quentin, Mézières, and the rest must all find their equivalents in Germany, and, if they suffer, their sufferings shall be piously and sternly wreaked upon the foe. Thus shall punishment be exacted down to the smallest village, and the rage of the Hun shall be held in check not by conscience but by fear.

We can trust our Allies to do what is right in circumstances of the utmost hardship. No land has a better right to exist in the beauty of her towns than France. She has guarded them jealously against the vandal and the Hun of older days, and jealously she will guard them by the only means left to her against the infamous battering of the Kaiser's disciplined marauders. A church for a church, a castle for a castle, there are castles in Silesia which still stand in ruins for a town, a village for a village. Remember we are fighting with savages, and reprisal is the only argument which savages understand. We would not, if we could, poison wells. We would not, if we could, carry off the poor, innocent civilians who trail in the retreat of the enemy. These are enterprises meet for the barbarian. But so long as there are towns and villages left in Germany, France should show no pity. For the Hun puts but one meaning upon pity—the weakness of a frightened foe. — Daily Mail.

NO PEACE WITH A HOHENZOLLERN.

BRAND THE MEN AT THE TOP.

[BY LOUAT FRASER.]

Under the German Constitution the Kaiser has sole power to enter into most classes of treaties with other nations and to make peace. Theoretically our own King has considerably lesser powers of a somewhat similar kind, but in practice he does not exercise them.

In Hunland these powers are real. If we began peace negotiations to-morrow we should have to negotiate not with the German peoples but with William Hohenzollern.

The time has come for the Allies to declare that they will make no peace with the Hohenzollerns. That, murderous brood of megalomaniacs who have deluged Europe with blood must be thrust for ever outside the pale.

On August 7th last year I ventured to urge in *The Daily Mail* that the Allies should unite in solemnly declaring the German Emperor and his heir-apparent to be outlaws of civilisation. I said we could not pronounce decrees of isolation upon tens of millions of Germans, however guilty, but we could at least brand the men at the top with a shame which would never be forgotten while history endures.

At once there were letters of protest and people began to say "Rush!" It was urged that it would never do to discuss the sacred and inviolable principle of dynastic rule. "France might agree," was said, "but what would the Romanoffs say?" It was well known that the Russian Imperial House strongly objected even to bringing any impious pressure upon the anointed Constantine of Greece. Besides, the Allies could not intervene between a people and its chosen ruler.

The Russian revolution has suddenly swept these objections into oblivion. I am not of those who fondly think that the movement which produced the swift destruction of Czarism will henceforth necessarily go smoothly. Medieval Russia can hardly be transformed in a night, and the heady wine of liberty has its dangers; but even if Russia only finds full regeneration through blood and tears the miracle has been already wrought. No man whose soul is alive can fail to see in what has happened in Russia fresh hope for the future of the world. We thought civilisation was being overthrown, but even amid the ruins new flowers are blooming.

The message of Russia to Germany is now, "Down with Wilhelm!" It is a message which the whole world should echo with ardour. The new argument against the anti-Hohenzollern movement is advanced, strangely enough, by English Radicals. They say that it will prolong the war and that the Germans will rally in support of their Kaiser. The answer is simple.

Unless we overthrow the Hohenzollerns, unless we strike at the dynastic roots of Prussian militarism, unless we make every German understand that the Allies will no longer tolerate the absolute, autocratic, and tyrannical system which Prussian Junkerdom, working through the Hohenzollerns, has imposed upon the rest of the German States, and has sought to impose on all Europe, it would be better to prolong the war for ever.

Who is responsible for the appalling devastation of Northern France, for the organised bestiality of which we daily receive fresh evidence, for the foul enslavement of the women and girls of Noyon, for all the acts of treachery and cruelty and horror which have been perpetrated by the Germans since the war began? Ultimately the Kaiser, the repository of power, France feels deeply the personal responsibility of the Kaiser and of the House of Hohenzollern and all that it represents.

France would have spoken out clearly in this matter long ago, but, like us, she thought the Romanoffs would be affronted, and, still more, she thought that denunciation of the Hohenzollerns would be misunderstood in this country. There need be no more hesitation. No hand will be raised here against an Allied movement to declare the Hohenzollerns pariahs and outcasts, the Ishmaelites of kingship, excommunicated for ever by the bulk of the world in arms.

By his own words the Kaiser stands condemned. Again and again he has claimed direct responsibility for the countless crimes of Germany, and now he must bear his hideous burden. Here are a few examples:

Only one is Master in the Empire, and I am that one; I will tolerate no other.

I represent Monarchy by the grace of God.

You must all have one will, and that is My will; there is only one law, and that is My law.

If I order you to shoot down your relatives, brothers—yes, even your parents—you must obey Me without murmuring. — (Speech to Potsdam recruits.)

The spirit of God has descended upon Me because I am German Emperor. I am the instrument of the Most High. I am His sword, His representative on earth. Woe and Death to those who oppose My will! Death to the infidel who denies My mission! Let all the enemies of the German nation perish! God demands their destruction—God, who by My mouth summons you to carry out His decrees. — (Proclamation to Army, September 13th, 1914.)

We must put an end to this silly nonsense. We must do it if we fight for years. The blood of innumerable brave men will have been shed in vain if this ridiculous and archaic lunacy is permitted to retain one vestige of power. He tried to impose his will upon the world. By the world he must be judged and when by his besotted subjects alone. When William Hohenzollern sought world dominion he ceased to possess the right to have his fate decided solely by his own people. He must be dealt with by the nations he sought to ruin and enslave, by the peoples he is enslaving to-day, and there must be no paltering with any.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

THE LADY CLERK.

IS SHE A FAILURE?

The war has filled London with girl clerks, and Government Departments are alive with them. They swarm in the doorways and frisk down the corridors of the War Office and Admiralty, until those august institutions fail to recognise themselves. But what they lose in dignity they gain in colour! Visitors gaze greedily through open doorways at visions of beauty, pen in hand (sometimes), and linger astonishingly over their business.

There have been rumours of inter-departmental rivalry; comparisons of beauty between the Air Department and the Ministry of Munitions, and secret stories of romance surpassing Garvion. Certain it is that the newer departments have scored over the old ones, because they have tapped a higher stratum, and most of their female employees have never worked before, anywhere. Fur coats abound; and the level of dress generally leaves nothing to be desired.

The effect of this influx is immense and subtle; it is traceable in a thousand ways, from the change in male habits to the revolution in routine. There is less red tape, because the feminine abhors it; and the office (especially at tea-time) has become a sort of home from home. Tea is the institution, says a writer in the *Daily News*. I don't refer to the occasional cups at 11 a.m., or after lunch, but the real festival that fills the feminine soul with sacred fire.

But it is the practical side that counts, after all. What does the change portend? Is it satisfactory? Will it continue? Will women supplant men? Women, to-day, command a disproportionate wage on the market, owing to the disappearance of men. In relation to the price of boys and men before the war they are vastly overpaid. Any girl, with a short training, can command something like 40s. a week; and the demand for shorthand typists greatly exceeds the supply. To those who employed labour three years ago the difference is startling. True, living is dearer; but the disproportion is so much greater.

I would not depreciate women or their potentialities; but the facts cannot be denied. They are new to work; they fail to give it earnest attention, and, as yet, do not seem capable of a man's intensity of effort. When they have been longer in the field they will hold their own, as they do now in teaching or nursing; but in the clerical world they have not attained the male standard. As personal assistants and as secretaries, when carefully chosen and trained, they are invaluable. Quicker, defter and more receptive than the male, they are altogether to be praised while under the immediate eye of the chief. But as a body, and especially when working together, they tend to failure. They are not serious enough, and they lack that *esprit de corps* that the body acquires in its teens. A room full of girls or women who have not been accustomed to working spells trouble.

The economic situation plays a great part at present, for women and girls with no one dependent on their earnings are earning and saving considerable sums, and as they often are careless whether they keep any post or not, a difficulty arises. From one aspect it is good that an employer or an official should not wield the whip of starvation; but this freedom must be accompanied by some independence and strength of mind, and some personal pride in one's work, or the minimum of discipline that is essential in any organisation cannot be achieved. All who have managed voluntary helpers will recognise this. Men by long and bitter struggle and sacrifice have attained, by union, some degree of independence; but these girls fresh from school have reached it at a bound. The result is too often unsatisfactory.

These objections, however, arise mainly from the fact that women are inexperienced as workers. Like raw schoolboys, they have not recognised the meaning of a team! But they will. These faults will disappear in a generation or so, and they will take their place beside men, filling the posts best adapted for them.

foolish courtiers in this country who fear to see the Kaiser treated as he deserves.

Much more dangerous than our country sycophants are our radical pacifists who pretend to think that if left to themselves the Germans will overcome the Imperial will and democratise their own institutions. Politically the Germans are sheep, and even in their excesses they are merely artificially maddened sheep. There is not the smallest prospect of an internal movement in Germany against Kaiserism until the German armies have been finally routed in the field. When that day dawns anything may happen; but those who know German domestic politics best assure me that last week's Socialist outbursts in the Reichstag were humbug. The only sincere opponents of the existing order of things in Germany are the handful of Minority Socialists, who are mostly under lock and key. The Majority Socialists, who pretended to attack the Government the other day, hold the funds of the party and are subservient tools of the authorities. They were permitted to talk freely in order to deceive the Russian extremists.

There is no breath of liberty stirring over the stagnant and miasmatic waters of Prussian absolutism. There never has been liberty in Germany, and it is not at all clear that the Germans want liberty or would know what to do with it if they had it. Politically they like to be licked and driven in herds.

Germany may in the end be regenerated from within, but never spontaneously. The *provers must come from without*. Refusal to treat with the Hohenzollerns will be no empty threat. It will represent the considered verdict of the Allies, and it will sink into the German mind. The sheep will realise its meaning when the German armies are overthrown and when they see the ruin to which their leaders have brought them.

Don't Worry!
I'm here

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KILLS

BUGS
FLEAS MOTHS
BEETLES

TINS 3/6

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OF
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Brings to your lips the juice of
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It is a drink that is always cooling and refreshing.
The children love it. Order a few bottles to-day.
Large supplies have been lately shipped from London.

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Over 30 years ago the late Lord
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PREPARED FOR 10 YEARS.
Sold in bottles by all
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Beware of Imitations.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

TO-DAY.

3 p.m.—Auction of Crown Land at Public
Works Dept.
4 p.m.—Hongkong General Chamber of
Commerce, General Meeting in the
Chamber Room.

TO-MORROW.

Noon—"Star" Ferry Co., Ltd., Meeting of
Shareholders at the Offices of Messrs.
Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.
5.15 p.m.—Hongkong Club, Extraordinary
General Meeting.

Thursday, 31st May—
5.15 p.m.—St. George's Society, Public Meet-
ing in the City Hall.

Tuesday, 31st July—
Noon—Auction of Valuable Leasehold Prop-
erty from the Liquidators of Messrs.
Jensen & Co. by Mr. Geo. P. Lamont.

It is a drink that is always cooling and refreshing.
The children love it. Order a few bottles to-day.
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THIRCE IS HE ARMED.

[BY IRVIN S. COBB.]

I believe it to be my patriotic duty as an American citizen to write what I am writing, and after it is written to endeavour to place it with a magazine having as wide a circulation in the United States as it is possible to find. In making this statement, though, I am not setting myself up as a teacher or a preacher; neither am I going upon the assumption that, because I am a fairly frequent contributor to this magazine, people will be the reader or should be the reader to read what I have to say.

Aside from a natural desire to do my own little bit, my chief reason is this: Largely by chance and by accident, I happened to be one of four or five American newspaper men who witnessed at first hand the German invasion of Belgium, and one of three who, a little later, witnessed some of the results of the German subjugation of the northern part of France. Likewise I was inside Germany at the time the rush upon Paris was checked and the retreat from the Marne took place, thereby having opportunity to take cognizance of the feelings and sentiments and the impulses which controlled the German populace in a period of victory and in a period of reversals.

I am in the advantageous position, therefore, of being able to recount as an eye-witness—and, as I hope, an honest one—something of what war means in its effects upon the civilian populace of a country caught unawares and in a measure unprepared; and, more than that, what war particularly and especially means when it is waged under the direction of officers trained in the Prussian school.

Having seen these things, I hate war with all my heart. I am sure that I hate it with a hatred deeper than the hate of you, reader, who never saw its actual workings and its garnered fruitage. For, you see, I saw the physical side of it; and, having seen it, I want to tell you how it is coming to be the half-way adequately to describe it for you, so that you may have in your mind the pictures I have in mine. It is the most obscene, the most hideous, the most brutal, the most malignant—and sometimes the most necessary—spectacle I verily believe, that ever the eye of mortal man has rested on since the world began, and I do hate it.

A COINCIDENCE.

But if war has to come—war for the preservation of our national honour and our national integrity; war for the defence of our flag and our people and our soil; war for the preservation of the principles of representative government among the nations of the earth—I would rather that it come now than that it come later. I have a child. I would rather that child, in her maturity, might be assured of living in a peace guaranteed by the sacrifices and the devotion of the men and women of this generation, than that her father should live on in precarious peace bought and paid for with cowardice and national dishonour.

A few nights ago a so-called anti-militarist mass meeting was held in New York. It was variously addressed by a number of well-known gentlemen regarding whose purity of motive there can be no question, but regarding whose judgment a great majority of us have an opinion that cannot be printed without the use of asterisks. And it was attended by a very large representation of peace-loving citizens, including a numerous contingent of those peculiar patriots who, for the past two years, have been so very distressed if any suggestion of hostilities with the Central Powers was made, but so agreeably reconciled if a break with the Allies, or any one of them, seemed a possible contingency.

It may have been only a coincidence, but it struck some of us as a significant fact that, from the time of the dismissal of Count Von Bernstorff onward, the average pro-peace meeting was pretty sure to resolve itself into something rather closely resembling a pro-German demonstration before the evening was over. Persons who hissed the name of our President behaved with respectful decorum when mention was made of a certain Kaiser.

However, I am not now concerned with these weird Americans, some of whom part, their Americanism in the middle with a hyphen. I imagine some of them may be going to jail when this article is printed. I am thinking now of those national advocates of the policy of the turned cheek; those professional pacifists; those wavers of the olive branch—who addressed this particular meeting and similar meetings that preceded it—little brothers to the worm and the sheep and the guinea pig, all of them—who preached not defence, but submission; not a firm stand, but a complete surrender; not action, but words, words, words.

Every right-thinking man, I take it, believes in universal peace and realizes, too, that we shall have universal peace in that fair day when three human attributes, now reasonably common among individuals and among nations, have been eliminated out of this world, these three being greed, jealousy and evil temper. Every sane American hopes for the time of universal disarmament, and meantime indulges in one mental reservation. He wants all the nations to put aside their arms; but he hopes his own nation will be the last to put aside hers. But not every American—thanks be to God!—has in these months and years of our campaign for preparedness favoured leaving this country in the state where she might be likened to a large, fat, rich, flabby

oyster, without any shell, in a sea full of potential or actual enemies, all clawed, all toothed, all hungry. The oyster may be the more popular, but it is the hard-shelled crab that makes the best life-insurance risk.

THE BIG STICK.

And when I read the utterances of those conscientious gentlemen, who could not be brought to bear the idea of going to war with any nation for any reason, I wished with all my soul they might have stood with me in Belgium on that August day, when I and the rest of the party to which I belonged saw the German legions come pouring down, a cloud of smoke by day and a pillar of fire by night, with terror riding before them as their herald, and death and destruction and devastation in the tracks their war-shod feet left upon a smiling and a fecund little land. Because I am firmly of the opinion that their sentiments would then have undergone the same instantaneous transformation which the feelings of each member of my group underwent.

Speaking for myself, I confess that, until that summer day of the year 1914, I had thought—such infrequent times as I gave the subject any thought at all—that for us to spend our money on heavy guns and an augmented navy, for us to dream of compulsory military training and a larger standing army, would be the concentrated essence of economic and national folly.

I remember when Colonel Roosevelt—then, I believe, President Roosevelt—delivered himself of the doctrine of the Big Stick. I, being a good Democrat, regarded him as an incendiary who would provoke the ill will of great Powers, which had for us only kindly feeling, by the shaking in their faces of an armed fist. I remember I had said to myself, as, no doubt, most Americans had said to themselves—

"We are a peaceful nation; not concerned with dreams of conquest. We have the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans for our protection. We are never going to make war on anybody else. Nobody else is going to make war on us. War is going out of fashion all over the place. A passion for peace is coming to be the fashion of the world. The lion and the lamb lie down together."

Well, the lion and the lamb did lie down together—over Europe; and when the lion rose, a raging lion, he had the mangled carcass of the lamb beneath his blood-red paws. And it was on the day when I first saw the lion, with his jaws dripping, coming down the high roads, typified in half a million fighting men—men whose sole business in life was to fight, and who knew their business as no other people ever have known it—that I, in one flash of time, decided I wanted my country to quit being one of the lambs, not because the lion was a pleasing figure before mine eyes, but because for the first time I realized that, so long as there are lions, sooner or later must come oppression and annihilation for the nation which persists in being one of the lambs.

As though it happened yesterday, instead of thirty months ago, I can recreate in my mind the physical and the mental stage settings of that moment. I can shut my eyes and see the German firing squad shooting two Belgian civilians against a brick wall. I can smell the odours of the burning houses. Yes, and I can see the burning flesh of the dead men who were in those houses. I can hear the sound of the footsteps of the fleeing villagers and the rumble of the tread of the invaders going by so countless, so confidently, so triumphantly, so magnificently disciplined and so faultlessly equipped.

Most of all, I can see the eyes and the faces of sundry German officers with whom I spoke. And when I do this I see their eyes shining with joy and their faces transfigured as though by a splendid vision; and I can hear them—not proclaiming the justice of their cause; not seeking excuse for the reprisals that had ordered; not, save for a few exceptions among them, deploring the unutterable misery and suffering their invasion of Belgium had wrought; not concerned with the ethical regrets of helpless and innocent non-combatants—but proud and swollen with the thought that, at every onward step, ruthlessness and determination and being ready had brought to them victory, conquest, spoils of war. Why, these men were like beings from another world—a world of whose existence we, on this side of the water, had never dreamed.

MERCY MISTAKEN FOR WEAKNESS.

And it was then I promised myself, if I had the luck to get back home again with a whole skin and a tongue in my head and a pen in my hand, I would in my humble way preach preparedness for America; not preparedness with a view necessarily to making war upon anyone else, but preparedness with a view essentially of keeping anyone else from making war upon us without counting the risks beforehand.

In my own humble and personal way I have been preaching it. In my own humble and personal way I am preaching it right this minute. And if my narrative is so very personal it is because I know that the personal illustration is the best possible illustration, and that one may drive home his point by telling the things he himself has seen and felt better than by dealing with the impressions and the facts which have come to him at secondhand.

Also, it seems to me, now the break has come, that I am free to use weapons which I did not feel I had the right to use before that break did come. Before, I was a newspaper reporter, engaged in describing what I saw and what I heard—not what I suspected and what I

feared. Besides, I was a neutral citizen of a neutral country.

I am not a neutral any more. I am an American! My country has clashed with a foreign Power, and the enemy of my country is my enemy and deserving of no more consideration at my hands than he deserves at the hands of my country. Moreover, I aim to try to show, as we go along, that any consideration of mercy or charity or magnanimity which we might show him would be misinterpreted. Being what he is he would not understand it. He would consider it as an evidence of weakness upon our part. It is what he would not show us, and if opportunity comes will not show us, any more than he showed it to Belgium or to France, or to Edith Cavell, or to those women and those babies on the *Lusitania*.

He did not make war cruel—it already was that; but he kept it cruel. War with him is not an emotional pastime; not a time for hysterical lip service to his flag; not a time for fuss and feathers. And, most of all, it is to him not a time for any display of mawkish, maudlin forbearance to his foe; but, instead, it is a deadly serious, deadly terrible business, the successful prosecution of which he and his rulers, and his government, and his whole system of life have been earnestly and sincerely dedicated throughout a generation of preparation, mental as well as physical.

When I think back on those first stages—and in some respects the most tragic stages—of the great war, I do not see it as a thing of pomp and glory, of splendid panorama, pitched on a more impressive scale than any movement ever was in all the history of mankind. I do not, in retrospect, see the sunlight, glinting on the long, unending, wearying lanes of bayonets, or the troops pouring in gray streams, like molten quicksilver, along all those gray highroads of Northern Europe; or the big guns belching; or the artillery horses going galloping into action; or the trenches; or the camps; or the hospitals; or the battlefields. I see it as it is reflected in certain small, detached pictures—small, focused, and incidental to the great horror of which they were an unconsidered part—but which, to me, typify most fully of all what war means when waged by the rule and rule of Prussian militarism upon the civilian populace of an invaded country.

THE WORDS OF THE PRIEST OF LOUVAIN.

I see again the little old bearded priest of Louvain who met us on the day we first entered that town; who took us out of the panic of the street where the inhabitants flustered about in aimless terror, like frightened fowl in a barnyard; and who led the way for us through a little wooden gate-way, set in the face of a high brick wall. It was as though we were in another world then, instead of the little world of panic and distress we had just quit. About a neglected tennis court grew a row of pear trees, and under a laden grape arbor at the back sat four more old priests, all in rusty black gowns. They got up from where they sat and came and spoke to us, and took us into a little cellar room, where they gave us a bottle of their home-made wine to drink and handfuls of their ripened pears to eat, and tried to point out to us, on a map, where they thought the incoming Germans might be, none of us knowing that already Uhlan scouts were entering the next street but one. As we were leaving, the eldest priest took me by the coat lapels and, with his kind, faded old eyes brimming and his gentle old face quivering, said to me in broken English:

"My son, it is not right that war should come to Belgium. We had no part in the quarrel of these, our great neighbours. My son, we are just a little people here—do not believe them should tell you so. For I tell you we are a good people. We are a very good people. All week my people work very hard, and on Sunday they go to church; and then perhaps they go for a walk in the fields. And that, to them, is all they know of life."

"My son," he continued, "you come from a great country—you come from the greatest of all the countries. Surely your country, which is so great and so strong, will not let my little country perish from off the face of the earth!"

Because we had no answer for him we went away. And when, six weeks later, I returned to ruined and devastated Louvain, I picked my way through the hideous wreckage of the streets to the little monastery again. Behold! the point of view was a broken heap of wrecked, charred masonry; and the pear trees were naked stumps, which stood up out of a clay waste; and the little cellar room, where we ate our pears and drank our wine, was a hole in the ground now, full of ill-smelling rubbish and fouled water, with the rotted and bloated corpse of a dead horse floating in the water, poisoning the air and giving promise of pestilence. And the priests who once had lived there were gone; and none in the town knew where they had gone.

Always, too, when thinking of the war, I think of the refugees I saw, but mostly of those I saw after Antwerp had fallen in the early days of October and I was skirting Holland on my way back out of Germany to the English Channel. I had seen enough refugees before then. God knows—men and women and children, old men and old women and little children and babies in arms, fleeing by the glare of their own burning houses over rainy, wind-swept, muddy roads; vast caravans of homeless misery, whose members marched on and on until they dropped from exhaustion. And when they had rested a while at the air-roads, with no beds beneath them but the earth and no shelter above them but the black umbrellas to which they clung, they got up and went on again, with no destination in view and no goal ahead; but only knowing, I suppose, that what might lie in front of them could not be worse than what they left behind them.

But never—until after Antwerp—did there seem to be so many of them, and never did their plight seem so pitiable. Over every road that ran up, out of Belgium into Holland—and that in this populous corner of Europe meant a road every little while—they poured all day in thick, jostling, unending, unbroken streams. I marked how the sides of every wayside building along the Dutch frontier was scrawled over with the names of hundreds of refugees, who already had passed that way; and, along with their names, the names of their own people, from whom they were separated in the haste and terror of flight, who—by one chance in a thousand—might come that way and read what was there written, and follow on.

This was the larger picture. Now for a small corner of the canvas: I remember a squalid little covehied in a little Dutch town on the border, just before dusk of a wet, raw autumnal night. Under the dripping eaves of the covehied stood an old man, a very old man. He must have been all of eighty. His garments were sopping wet, and all that he owned now of this world's goods rested at his feet, tied up in the rags of an old red tablecloth. In one withered, trembling old hand he held a box of matches, and in the other a piece of chalk. With one hand he scratched match after match; and with the other, on the wall of that little covehied, he wrote, over and over and over again, his name, and beneath it the name of the old wife from whom he was separated—doubtless forever.

Possibly these things might have come to pass in any war, whether or not Germans were concerned in making that war; probably they should be included among the inevitable by-products of the institution called warfare. That, however, did not make them the less sorrowful.

UNDER THE BLACK VULTURE'S WINGS.

The point I am trying to make is this: That, seeing such sights, and a thousand more like them, I could picture the same things—and a thousand worse things—happening in my own country. With better reason, I do-day can picture them as happening in my own country; and in all fairness I go further than that and say that I can conceive them as being all the more likely to happen should the invading forces come at us under that design of a black vulture which is known as the Imperial Prussian Eagle. Given similar conditions and similar opportunities, and I can see Holyoke, Massachusetts, or Charleston, South Carolina, razed in smoking ruins, as Louvain or as Dinant was. I can see the mayor of Baltimore being put to death by drum-head court-martial because some infuriated civilian of his town fired from a cottage window at a Pomeranian grenadier. I can see in Pennsylvania, congressmen and judges and G. A. R. veterans held as hostages, and as potential victims of the firing squad, in case some son or some grandson of old John Burns, of Gettysburg, not regularly enrolled, takes up his shotgun in defence of his homestead. I can see a price put on the head of some modern Molly Pitcher, and a military prison waiting for some latter-day Barbara Frichette. For we must remember that what we Americans call patriots the ancient War Lord calls *franc-tireurs*, meaning bushwhackers.

I do not believe I personally can be charged with an evinced bias against the German Army, as based on what I saw of its operations in the opening months of the war. Because I had an admiration for the courage and the fortitude of the German common soldier, and because I expressed that admiration, I was charged with being pro-German by persons who understood that a spectator may admire the individual without in the least sympathizing with the causes which sent him into the field. And at a time when this country was filled with stories of barbarities committed upon Belgian civilians by German soldiers—stories of the mutilating of babies, of the raping of women, of the torturing of old men—I was one of five experienced newspapermen who, all of our own free will and not under duress or coercion, signed a statement in which we severally and jointly stated that, in our experiences when travelling with or immediately behind the German columns through upward of a hundred miles of Belgian territory, we had been unable to discover good evidence of a single one of these alleged atrocities. Nor did we.

THE CRIMES OF AN ARMY.

What I tried to point out at the time—in the fall of 1914—was that would point out to us a justice to those who now are our enemies is that identically the same accounts of atrocities which were told in England and in America as having been perpetrated by Germans upon Belgians and Frenchmen, were simultaneously repeated in Germany as having been perpetrated by Belgians and Frenchmen upon German nuns and German wounded; and were just as firmly believed in Germany as in America and Britain, and had, as I verily believe, just as little foundation of fact in one quarter as in the other quarters.

Indeed, I am willing to go still further and say, because of the rigorous discipline by which the German common soldier is bound, that in the German occupation of hostile territory opportunities for the individual brute or the individual degenerate to commit excesses against the individual victim were greatly reduced. Of course, there must have been sporadic instances of hideous acts—there always have been where men went to war; but I have never been able to bring myself to believe that such acts could have been a part of a systematic or organized campaign of frightfulness. There was plenty of the frightfulness without these added horrors.

But I was an eye-witness to crimes which, measured by the standards of humanity and civilization, impressed me as worse than any individual excess, any individual outrage, could ever have been or can ever be; because these crimes in-

dubitably were instigated on a wholesale basis by order of officers of rank, and must have been carried out under their personal supervision, direction and approval. Briefly, what I saw was this: I saw wide areas of Belgium and France in which not a penny's worth of wanton destruction had been permitted to occur, in which the ripe pears hung untouched upon the garden walls; and I saw other wide areas where scarcely one stone had been left to stand upon another; where the fields were ravaged; where the male villagers had been shot in squads; where the miserable survivors had been left to die in holes, like wild beasts.

Taking the physical evidence offered before our own eyes, and buttressing it with the statements made to us, not only by natives, but by German soldiers and German officers, we could reach but one conclusion, which was that here, in such-and-such a place, those in command had said to the troops: "Spare this town and these people!" And there they had said: "Waste this town and shoot these people!" And here, the troops had indiscriminately spared, and there they had indiscriminately wasted in exact accordance with the word of their superiors.

Doubtless you read the published extracts from diaries taken off the bodies of killed or captured German soldiers in the first year of the war. Didn't you often read where this soldier or that, setting down his own private thoughts, had lamented at having been required to put his hand to the task of killing and destroying? But, from this same source, did you ever get evidence that any soldier had actually revolted against this campaign of cruelty, and had refused to burn the homes of helpless civilians or to slay unresisting non-combatants? You did not, and for a very good reason: Because that rebellious soldier would never have lived long enough to write down the record of his humanity—he would have been shot dead by the revolver of his own captain or his own lieutenant.

I saw German soldiers marching through a wrecked and ravished countryside, singing their German songs about the home place, and the Christmas tree, and the Rhine maiden—creatures so full of sentiment that they had no room in their souls for sympathy. And by the same token, I saw German soldiers dividing their rations with hungry Belgians. They divided their rations with these famished ones because it was not *verboten*—because there was no order to the contrary. Had there been an order to the contrary, those poor women and those starving children might have starved, and no German soldier, whatever his private feelings, would have dared to offer to them a crust of bread or a bone of beef. Of that I am very sure.

And it seemed to me then, and it seems to me now, a most dangerous thing for all the peoples of the earth, and the most evil thing that into the world should come a scheme of military government so helically contrived and so exactly executed that, by the flint of a colonel's thumb, a thousand men may, at will, be transformed from kindly, courageous, manly soldiers into relentless, ruthless executioners and incendiaries; and by another flint of that supreme and arrogant thumb, be converted back again into decent men.

In peace the mental docility of the German, his willingness to accept an order unquestioningly and mechanically to obey it, may be a virtue, as we recognize in the case of a people among their virtues in war this same trait becomes a vice. In peace it makes him yet more peaceful; in war it gives to his manner of waging war an added sinister menace.

It is that very menace which must confront the American trooper who may be sent abroad for service. It is that very menace which must confront our people at home in the event that the enemy shall get near enough to our coasts to bombard our shore cities, as undoubtedly he would seek to do; or should he succeed in landing an expeditionary force upon American soil.

When I first came back from the war front I marvelled that sensible persons so often asked me what sort of people the Germans were, as though Germans were a stranger race, like Patagonians or the South Sea Islanders, living in some remote and untravelled corner of the globe. I felt like telling them that Germans in Germany were like the Germans they knew in America—in the main, God-fearing, orderly, hard-working, self-respecting citizens. But through these intervening months I have changed my mind; today I should make a different answer. I would say, to him who asked that question now, that the same tractability of temperament which, under the easy-going, flexible working of our American plan of living makes the German-born American so readily conform to his physical and metaphysical surroundings here and makes his progeny so soon amalgamate with our fused and conglomerated stock, has the effect, in his Fatherland, of all the more easily and all the more firmly filling his mind and shaping his needs in conformity with the exact and rigorous demands of the Prussianism that has been shackled upon him since his empire ceased to be a group of separated and frequently discordant petty States.

MEN THAT DON'T PLAY THE GAME.

We have got to remember, then, that the Germany with which we have broken is not the Germany of Heine and Goethe and Haackel and Beethoven; not the Germany that gave us Stouven in the Revolutionary War, and Sigel and Schurz in the Civil War; not the Germany of true sentimental, chivalrous, lovable Saxons; or yet of the music-loving home-loving Bavarians; not the Germany that was the birthplace of the kindly, unassuming, industrious, patriotic German-speaking neighbours round the corner from you—but the fanatical, tyrannical, power-mad, blood-and-iron Prussianized Germany of Bismarck and Von Bernhardi, of the Crown Prince and the Junkers that passionate Prussianized Germany which for forty years through the instrument-

ality of its ruling classes—not necessarily its Kaiser, but its real ruling classes—has been jealously striving to pervert every native ounce of its scientific and its inventive and its creative genius out of the paths of progress and civilization and to join it into the grooves of the greatest automatic machine, the greatest organism for killing off human beings, the greatest engine of misbegotten and misdirected efficiency that was ever created in the world. Because we have an admiration for one of these two Germans is no more a reason why we should abate our indignation and our detestation for the other Germany than that because a man loses a cheery blaze upon his hearthstone he should refuse to fight a forest fire.

We have got to remember another thing. If our overseas observations of this war abroad have taught us anything, they should have taught us that the German Army—and when I say army I mean in this case, not its men but its officers, since in the German Army the officers are essentially the brain and the power and the motive force directing the unthinking, blindly obedient mass beneath them—that the German Army is not an army of good sportsmen. And that, I take it, is an even more important consideration upon the athletic field of the warring Germans don't play the game. It is as inconceivable to imagine German officers going in for baseball or football or cricket as it is to imagine American volunteers marching the goose step.

GREEDY WINNERS, BAD LOSERS.

The Germans are not an outdoor race; they are not given to playing outdoor sports and abiding by the rules of those sports, as Englishmen and as Americans are, and in what is the biggest of all outdoor games—it stands proved against them that they do not play according to the rules, except they be rules of their own making. It may be argued that the French are not an outdoor race or a sport-loving race, as we conceive sports. But, on the other hand, the Frenchman is essentially romantic and essentially dramatic, and, whether in war or in victory afterward, he is likely to exhibit the magnanimous and the generous virtues rather than the cruel and the unkindly instincts, because, as we all know, it is easier to dramatize one's good impulses than one's evil ones.

Now the German, as has recently been shown, is neither dramatic, nor sportsmanlike. He is a greedy winner and he is a bad loser—a most remarkably bad loser. Good sportsmen would not have broken Belgium into bloody bits because Belgium stood between them and their goal; good sportsmen would not have sung the Hymn of Hate, or made "Gott Strafe England!" their battle cry; good sportsmen would not have shot Edith Cavell, or sunk the *Lusitania*. Good sportsmen would not have packed the helpless men and boys of a conquered and a prostrate land off to captivity into an enforced servitude worse than African slavery; would not wantonly have wasted La Fère and Chauny and Ham, and a hundred other French towns, as they did last month, for a conceivable reason than that they must surrender these towns back into the hand of the enemy; would not, while ostensibly at peace with us, have plotted to destroy our industrial plants and to plant the seeds of sedition among our foreign-born citizens, and to dismember our country, parceling it out to a brown race in Mexico and a yellow race in Japan. Good sports do not do these things, and Germany did all of them. That means something.

Having spread the gospel of force for so long, Prussianized Germany can understand but one counter-argument—force. We must give her back blow for blow—a harder blow in return for each blow she gives us. "Thrice is he armed that hath his quarrel just"; and our quarrel is just. All the same, to make war successfully we must make it with a whole heart; we must make it to be a holy war; we must make it a jihad, remembering always, now that the Russian Empire is a republic, now that Russia by revolution has thrown off the chains of autocracy, that we shall be fighting not only to punish the enemy for wrongs inflicted and insults overpatiently endured; not only to make the seas free to honest commerce; not only for the protection of our flag and our ships and the lives of our people at home and abroad—but along with England, France, yes, and Russia—shall we fight for the preservation of the principles of constitutional and representative government against those heads of the few remaining great Powers who hold by the divine right of kings and who believe that man was not created a self-governing creature but a vassal.

Merely because we are willing to give of our wealth and our granaries and our steel mills, we cannot expect to have an honourable share in this war, and to share as an equal in its final settlement. We must risk something more precious than money; something more than uniforms; we must risk our manhood. We cannot expect England's navy to stand between us and harm for our coasts, and France's worn legions to bear the brunt of the trench war.

Knowing nothing of military expediency, I yet believe that, for the moral effect upon the world and for our own position, when the time for making peace comes it would be better for us, rather than the securing of our own soil against attack or invasion, that an American flag should wave over American troops in Flanders; that a Texas cow-puncher should lead a forlorn hope in France; that a Connecticut clockmaker should invent a device which will blunt the fangs of that stinging adder of the sea, the U-boat, and—who knows?—perhaps scotch the poison snake altogether.

Maybe it is true that, in our mistaken forbearance, we have failed and come short. Maybe we have endured too long and too patiently; we can strive for all that. But—

Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins.

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